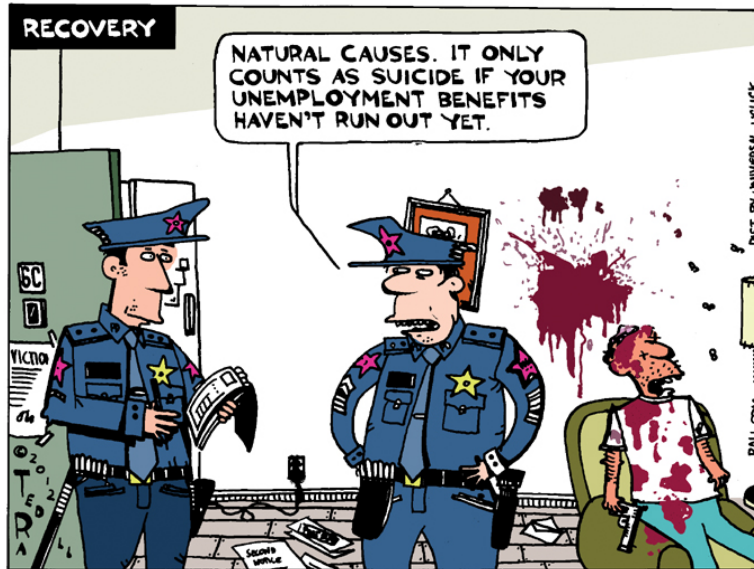


Military Resistance 10B19



**Afghan Who Executed Two U.S. Officers “Worked In The Interior Ministry, Had Access To Top Security Intelligence Briefings”
“He Would Have Known The Most Sensitive Information That Was Passing Through The Ministry”
Withdrawal Of Foreign Military From Afghan Ministries “Will Paralyze Important Areas, Such As Intelligence Sharing And Many Ongoing Security Operations”**

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

2.26.12 By Orla Guerin, BBC News, Kabul

Afghanistan's interior ministry has said one of its own employees is suspected of the killing of two senior US officers inside the ministry.

Officials earlier named police intelligence officer Abdul Saboor from Parwan province as the main suspect behind Saturday's attack.

In a statement, the interior ministry said: "An employee has been identified as a suspect and he has now fled. The interior ministry is trying to arrest the suspected individual."

The ministry did not give a name, but other officials said Mr Saboor, 25, was being sought.

He had served in several Afghan ministries and had worked at the interior ministry for some time, with responsibilities for security arrangements and access to top level intelligence briefings and secure radio communication channels.

His family home in the Salang valley area of Parwan province, north-east Afghanistan, was raided overnight and his relatives in Kabul detained, said officials.

One senior Afghan general told the BBC: "The virus of infiltration has spread like a cancer and it needs an operation. Curing it has not helped."

Nato's commander in Afghanistan Gen John Allen said that for "obvious force protection reasons" all International Security Assistance Force personnel were being withdrawn from ministries in and around Kabul.

The BBC's Bilal Sarwary in Kabul says the withdrawal will paralyze important areas, such as technical support, intelligence sharing and many ongoing security operations.

It disconnects the co-ordination of the Afghan government with ISAF, says our correspondent, and could not have come at a worse time, with attacks taking place on police and army positions across several provinces.

The suspect, if guilty, would have been the ideal assassin. He was above suspicion and a trusted insider.

He worked in the interior ministry, had access to top security intelligence briefings and also has a walkie-talkie on a secure channel.

He would have known the most sensitive information that was passing through the ministry.

According to officials, he even knew those who were killed on Saturday.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Eight US Soldiers Wounded By Grenade Attack During Protest At Afghan Military Base

2.26.12 By Jim Miklaszewski, NBC News

U.S. military officials say eight American soldiers were wounded Sunday during a violent protest outside a U.S. forward operating base in Afghanistan's Kunduz province. The Americans were wounded when one of the protesters hurled a grenade into the compound. The extent of the injuries was unclear.

The attack occurred as 400 demonstrators stormed the American outpost to protest the burning of Qurans at the U.S. Bagram airbase north of Kabul.

Thousands of demonstrators tried to enter the district's largest city, said Amanuddin Quriashi, district administrator. People in the crowd fired on police and threw grenades at a U.S. base on the city outskirts, he said.

One of the protesters was killed when troops fired out from the U.S. base, Quriashi said. Another demonstrator was killed by Afghan police, he added.

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

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE
WAR**

MILITARY NEWS

**“Could It Be That The Military
Medical Personnel Would Rather
Issue Painkillers And Tranquilizers**

**To Soldiers And Treat The
Symptoms Instead Of Fixing
Problems?”**
**“No Wonder They Come Home
Addicted To Prescription Drugs”**
“The Army Got Them Addicted”

Letters To The Editor
Army Times
2.27.2012

I read “DoD to test troops for more prescription drugs” (Feb 13).

And first off, let me say that I’m all in favor of testing soldiers to ensure that they do not misuse prescription or illegal drugs.

But it states that the numbers are up among military personnel especially in the Army and Marine Corps.

Has anyone at the Defense Department bothered to ask why?

Could it be that the military medical personnel would rather issue painkillers and tranquilizers to soldiers and treat the symptoms instead of fixing problems?

On multiple occasions in my 15 years in the Army, I have witnessed doctors and physician assistants give out Motrin like candy in garrison instead of a proper diagnosis.

While on a deployment, I’ve seen soldiers go to a PA and say they had pains or couldn’t sleep. They were given pain meds and sleep meds for an entire deployment.

No wonder they come home addicted to prescription drugs.

The Army got them addicted.

This is not to say that the doctors or PAs are to blame entirely, but someone needs to keep better control of how freely these people hand out these meds. They think that they are helping the soldier at the time but instead are creating problems for the future.

Staff Sgt. Gustavo Jimenez
Fort Bliss, Texas

“Federal Courts Are Not Foreclosed To Active Duty Service Members” Using Federal Courts In Representing Military Personnel

December 2011 By Jim Klimaski; On Watch, National Military Law Task Force

James Klimaski is a member of the NLG Military Law Task Force Steering Committee and a long time military law practitioner.

Federal courts are not foreclosed to active duty service members.

The earliest reported case goes back to 1806. See *Wise v. Withers*, 3 Cranch 33 I.

Since the end of World War II the Supreme court has frequently reaffirmed the right of service members to access Federal courts. See *Orloff v. Willoughby*, 345 U.S. 83(1953), Doctor challenged induction into the Army due to failure to commission him as an officer;

***Brown v. Wilson*, 346 U.S. 137 (1953), Service member has right to petition for writ of habeas corpus challenging court martial conviction;**

***Brown v. Glines*, 444 U.S. 348 (1980), Service member challenge to base rule requiring commander’s approval before circulating a petition to Congress.**

However, this right of access has its limitations.

See *Chappell v. Wallace*, 462 U.S. 296 (1983), which barred enlisted military personnel from suing their commanding officer for money damages for alleged Constitutional violations.

The Court compared this to actions under the Federal Tort claims Act which the Court had previously barred to service members in *Feres v. United States*, 340 U.S. 135 (1950).

In setting the standard for judicial review of an action by a service member most circuits have followed the case of *Mindes v. Seaman*, 453 F.2d 197 (Sth Cir. 1971). The other circuits follow the guidelines set by the 3rd Circuit in *Dillard v. Brown*, 652 F.2d 3 16 (1981).

In analyzing the right to access, the courts first determine if there is an allegation of a deprivation of a constitutional right or violation of applicable statute or service regulation.

If so then the court moves on to a determination as to whether or not any appropriate administrative measures have been exhausted.

Once past those hurdles, the court will “weigh the nature and strength of the challenge to the military determination, the potential injury to the plaintiff if review is refused, the type and degree of anticipated interference with the military function and the extent to which military discretion or expertise is involved in the challenged decision.”

Most Federal cases where the plaintiff is a service member come before the court as a review of some administrative board decision such as those from the Boards for Correction of Military Records.

The District court will apply an “arbitrary and capricious” standard of review as they are usually brought to the court under the Administrative Procedures Act. See *Kries v. Sec’y of the Air Force*, 866 F.2d 1508 (D.C. Cir 1989).

Otherwise the military case would be brought to the U.S. Court of Federal Claims under the provisions of the Tucker Act or the Military Pay Act when the monetary claim is in excess of \$10,000.

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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS

**“The Pathway Of Tyrants Lies
Over Volcanoes”**

**“Oppression, Organized As Ours Is,
Will Appear Invincible Up To The
Very Hour Of Its Fall”**

**“Those Who Enslave, Rob, And Torment
Their Cooks, May Well Expect To Find
Death In Their Dinner-Pots”**



Your fathers have said that man’s right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility. The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man’s right to liberty is to the moral vision.

Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.

May 1857 By Frederick Douglass, Speech on the Dred Scott Decision [Excerpt]

Dred Scott v. Sandford was a decision by the United States Supreme Court, 1857, written by Chief Justice Taney, ruling that people of African descent imported into

the United States and held as slaves (or their descendants, whether or not they were slaves) were not protected by the Constitution, and that “The negro has no rights which the white man is bound to respect.”

While four millions of our fellow countrymen are in chains--while men, women, and children are bought and sold on the auction-block with horses, sheep, and swine--while the remorseless slave--whip draws the warm blood of our common humanity--it is meet that we assemble as we have done to-day, and lift up our hearts and voices in earnest denunciation of the vile and shocking abomination.

It is not for us to be governed by our hopes or our fears in this great work; yet it is natural on occasions like this, to survey the position of the great struggle which is going on between slavery and freedom, and to dwell upon such signs of encouragement as may have been lately developed, and the state of feeling these signs or events have occasioned in us and among the people generally.

It is a fitting time to take an observation to ascertain where we are, and what our prospects are.

To many, the prospects of the struggle against slavery seem far from cheering.

Eminent men, North and South, in Church and State, tell us that the omens are all against us.

Emancipation, they tell us, is a wild, delusive idea; the price of human flesh was never higher than now; slavery was never more closely entwined about the hearts and affections of the southern people than now; that whatever of conscientious scruple, religious conviction, or public policy, which opposed the system of slavery forty or fifty years ago, has subsided; and that slavery never reposed upon a firmer basis than now.

Completing this picture of the happy and prosperous condition of this system of wickedness, they tell us that this state of things is to be set to our account. Abolition agitation has done it all.

How deep is the misfortune of my poor, bleeding people, if this be so! How lost their condition, if even the efforts of their friends but sink them deeper in ruin!

Without assenting to this strong representation of the increasing strength and stability of slavery, without denouncing what of untruth pervades it, I own myself not insensible to the many difficulties and discouragement that beset us on every hand. They fling their broad and gloomy shadows across the pathway of every thoughtful colored man in this country.

For one, I see them clearly, and feel them sadly. With an earnest, aching heart, I have long looked for the realization of the hope of my people. Standing, as it were, barefoot, and treading upon the sharp and flinty rocks of the present, and looking out upon the boundless sea of the future, I have sought, in my humble way, to penetrate the intervening mists and clouds, and, perchance, to descry, in the dim and shadowy distance, the white flag of freedom, the precise speck of time at which the cruel bondage

of my people should end, and the long entombed millions rise from the foul grave of slavery and death.

But of that time I can know nothing, and you can know nothing. All is uncertain at that point.

One thing, however, is certain; slaveholders are in earnest, and mean to cling to their slaves as long as they can, and to the bitter end.

They show no sign of a wish to quit their iron grasp upon the sable throats of their victims.

Their motto is, "a firmer hold and a tighter grip" for every new effort that is made to break their cruel power.

The case is one of life or death with them, and they will give up only when they must do that or do worse.

In one view the slaveholders have a decided advantage over all opposition.

It is well to notice this advantage--the advantage of complete organization.

They are organized; and yet were not at the pains of creating their organizations.

The State governments, where the system of slavery exists, are complete slavery organizations.

The church organizations in those States are equally at the service of slavery; while the Federal Government, with its army and navy, from the chief magistracy in Washington, to the Supreme Court, and thence to the chief marshalship at New York, is pledged to support, defend, and propagate the crying curse of human bondage.

The pen, the purse, and the sword, are united against the simple truth, preached by humble men in obscure places.

This is one view.

It is, thank God, only one view; there is another, and a brighter view.

David, you know, looked small and insignificant when going to meet Goliath, but looked larger when he had slain his foe.

The Malakoff [a fortress in Russia stormed by French soldiers] was, to the eye of the world, impregnable, till the hour it fell before the shot and shell of the allied army.

Thus hath it ever been.

Oppression, organized as ours is, will appear invincible up to the very hour of its fall.

Sir, let us look at the other side, and see if there are not some things to cheer our heart and nerve us up anew in the good work of emancipation.

Take this fact--for it is a fact--the anti-slavery movement has, from first to last, suffered no abatement.

It has gone forth in all directions, and is now felt in the remotest extremities of the Republic.

It started small, and was without capital either in men or money. The odds were all against it.

It literally had nothing to lose, and everything to gain.

There was ignorance to be enlightened, error to be combatted, conscience to be awakened, prejudice to be overcome, apathy to be aroused, the right of speech to be secured, mob violence to be subdued, and a deep, radical change to be wrought in the mind and heart of the whole nation.

This great work, under God, has gone on, and gone on gloriously.

Amid all changes, fluctuations, assaults, and adverses of every kind, it has remained firm in its purpose, steady in its aim, onward and upward, defying all opposition, and never losing a single battle.

Our strength is in the growth of anti-slavery conviction, and this has never halted.

There is a significant vitality about this abolition movement. It has taken a deeper, broader, and more lasting hold upon the national heart than ordinary reform movements. Other subjects of much interest come and go, expand and contract, blaze and vanish, but the huge question of American Slavery, comprehending, as it does, not merely the weal or the woe of four millions, and their countless posterity, but the weal or the woe of this entire nation, must increase in magnitude and in majesty with every hour of its history.

From a cloud not bigger than a man's hand, it has overspread the heavens.

It has risen from a grain not bigger than a mustard seed. Yet see the fowls of the air, how they crowd its branches.

Politicians who cursed it, now defend it; ministers, once dumb, now speak in its praise; and presses, which once flamed with hot denunciations against it, now surround the sacred cause as by a wall of living fire.

Politicians go with it as a pillar of cloud by day, and the press as a pillar of fire by night. With these ancient tokens of success, I, for one, will not despair of our cause.

Those who have undertaken to suppress and crush out this agitation for Liberty and humanity, have been most woefully disappointed.

Many who have engaged to put it down, have found themselves put down.

The agitation has pursued them in all their meanderings, broken in upon their seclusion, and, at the very moment of fancied security, it has settled down upon them like a mantle of unquenchable fire.

Clay, Calhoun, and Webster each tried his hand at suppressing the agitation; and they went to their graves disappointed and defeated.

Loud and exultingly have we been told that the slavery question is settled, and settled forever.

You remember it was settled thirty-seven years ago, when Missouri was admitted into the Union with a slaveholding constitution, and slavery prohibited in all territory north of thirty-six degrees of north latitude.

Just fifteen years afterwards, it was settled again by voting down the right of petition, and gagging down free discussion in Congress.

Ten years after this it was settled again by the annexation of Texas, and with it the war with Mexico.

In 1850 it was again settled. This was called a final settlement. By it slavery was virtually declared to be the equal of Liberty, and should come into the Union on the same terms. By it the right and the power to hunt down men, women, and children, in every part of this country, was conceded to our southern brethren, in order to keep them in the Union.

Four years after this settlement, the whole question was once more settled, and settled by a settlement which unsettled all the former settlements.

The fact is, the more the question has been settled, the more it has needed settling.

The space between the different settlements has been strikingly on the decrease.

The first stood longer than any of its successors.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement. We are now --the second, ten years--the third, five years--the fourth stood four years --and the fifth has stood the brief space of two years.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement.

We are now told, in tones of lofty exultation, that the day is lost all lost and that we might as well give up the struggle. The highest authority has spoken. The voice of the Supreme Court has gone out over the troubled waves of the National Conscience, saying peace, be still.

This infamous decision of the Slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court maintains that slaves are within the contemplation of the Constitution of the United States, property; that slaves are property in the same sense that horses, sheep, and swine are property; that the old doctrine that slavery is a creature of local law is false; that the right of the

slaveholder to his slave does not depend upon the local law, but is secured wherever the Constitution of the United States extends; that Congress has no right to prohibit slavery anywhere; that slavery may go in safety anywhere under the star-spangled banner; that colored persons of African descent have no rights that white men are bound to respect; that colored men of African descent are not and cannot be citizens of the United States.

You will readily ask me how I am affected by this devilish decision--this judicial incarnation of wolfishness?

My answer is, and no thanks to the slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court, my hopes were never brighter than now.

I have no fear that the National Conscience will be put to sleep by such an open, glaring, and scandalous tissue of lies as that decision is, and has been, over and over, shown to be.

The Supreme Court of the United States is not the only power in this world. It is very great, but the Supreme Court of the Almighty is greater.

Judge Taney can do many things, but he cannot perform impossibilities. He cannot bale out the ocean, annihilate the firm old earth, or pluck the silvery star of liberty from our Northern sky. He may decide, and decide again; but he cannot reverse the decision of the Most High. He cannot change the essential nature of things--making evil good, and good evil.

Happily for the whole human family, their rights have been defined, declared, and decided in a court higher than the Supreme Court. "There is a law," says Brougham, "above all the enactments of human codes, and by that law, unchangeable and eternal, man cannot hold property in man."

Your fathers have said that man's right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility.

Man was born with it. It was his before he comprehended it. The deed conveying it to him is written in the center of his soul, and is recorded in Heaven.

The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man's right to liberty is to the moral vision.

To decide against this right in the person of Dred Scott, or the humblest and most whip-scarred bondman in the land, is to decide against God. It is an open rebellion against God's government. It is an attempt to undo what God has done, to blot out the broad distinction instituted by the Allwise between men and things, and to change the image and superscription of the everliving God into a speechless piece of merchandise.

Such a decision cannot stand. God will be true though every man be a liar. We can appeal from this hell-black judgment of the Supreme Court, to the court of common sense and common humanity. We can appeal from man to God. If there is no justice on earth, there is yet justice in heaven. You may close your Supreme Court against the

black man's cry for justice, but you cannot, thank God, close against him the ear of a sympathizing world, nor shut up the Court of Heaven.

All that is merciful and just, on earth and in Heaven, will execrate and despise this edict of Taney.

If it were at all likely that the people of these free States would tamely submit to this demoniacal judgment, I might feel gloomy and sad over it, and possibly it might be necessary for my people to look for a home in some other country.

But as the case stands, we have nothing to fear.

In one point of view, we, the abolitionists and colored people, should meet this decision, unlooked for and monstrous as it appears, in a cheerful spirit.

This very attempt to blot out forever the hopes of an enslaved people may be one necessary link in the chain of events preparatory to the downfall and complete overthrow of the whole slave system.

The whole history of the anti-slavery movement is studded with proof that all measures devised and executed with a view to ally and diminish the anti-slavery agitation, have only served to increase, intensify, and embolden that agitation.

This wisdom of the crafty has been confounded, and the counsels of the ungodly brought to nought.

It was so with the Fugitive Slave Bill. It was so with the Kansas-Nebraska Bill; and it will be so with this last and most shocking of all pro-slavery devices, this Taney decision.

When great transactions are involved, where the fate of millions is concerned, where a long enslaved and suffering people are to be delivered, I am superstitious enough to believe that the finger of the Almighty may be seen bringing good out of evil, and making the wrath of man redound to his honor, hastening the triumph of righteousness.

The American people have been called upon, in a most striking manner, to abolish and put away forever the system of slavery. The subject has been pressed upon their attention in all earnestness and sincerity. The cries of the slave have gone forth to the world, and up to the throne of God.

This decision, in my view, is a means of keeping the nation awake on the subject. It is another proof that God does not mean that we shall go to sleep, and forget that we are a slaveholding nation.

Step by step we have seen the slave power advancing; poisoning, corrupting, and perverting the institutions of the country; growing more and more haughty, imperious, and exacting. The white man's liberty has been marked out for the same grave with the black man's.

The ballot box is desecrated, God's law set at nought, armed legislators stalk the halls of Congress, freedom of speech is beaten down in the Senate. The rivers and highways are infested by border ruffians, and white men are made to feel the iron heel of slavery.

This ought to arouse us to kill off the hateful thing. They are solemn warnings to which the white people, as well as the black people, should take heed.

If these shall fail, judgment, more fierce or terrible, may come.

The lightning, whirlwind, and earthquake may come.

Jefferson said that he trembled for his country when he reflected that God is just, and his justice cannot sleep forever.

The time may come when even the crushed worm may turn under the tyrant's feet. Goaded by cruelty, stung by a burning sense of wrong, in an awful moment of depression and desperation, the bondman and bondwoman at the south may rush to one wild and deadly struggle for freedom.

Already slaveholders go to bed with bowie knives, and apprehend death at their dinners.

Those who enslave, rob, and torment their cooks, may well expect to find death in their dinner-pots.

The world is full of violence and fraud, and it would be strange if the slave, the constant victim of both fraud and violence, should escape the contagion.

He, too, may learn to fight the devil with fire, and for one, I am in no frame of mind to pray that this may be long deferred.

Two remarkable occurrences have followed the presidential election; one was the unaccountable sickness traced to the National Hotel at Washington, and the other was the discovery of a plan among the slaves, in different localities, to slay their oppressors.

Twenty or thirty of the suspected were put to death. Some were shot, some hanged, some burned, and some died under the lash.

One brave man owned himself well acquainted with the conspiracy, but said he would rather die than disclose the facts. He received seven hundred and fifty lashes, and his noble spirit went away to the God who gave it.

The name of this hero has been by the meanness of tyrants suppressed. Such a man redeems his race. He is worthy to be mentioned with the Hoffers and Tells, the noblest heroes of history.

These insurrectionary movements have been put down, but they may break out at any time, under the guidance of higher intelligence, and with a more invincible spirit.

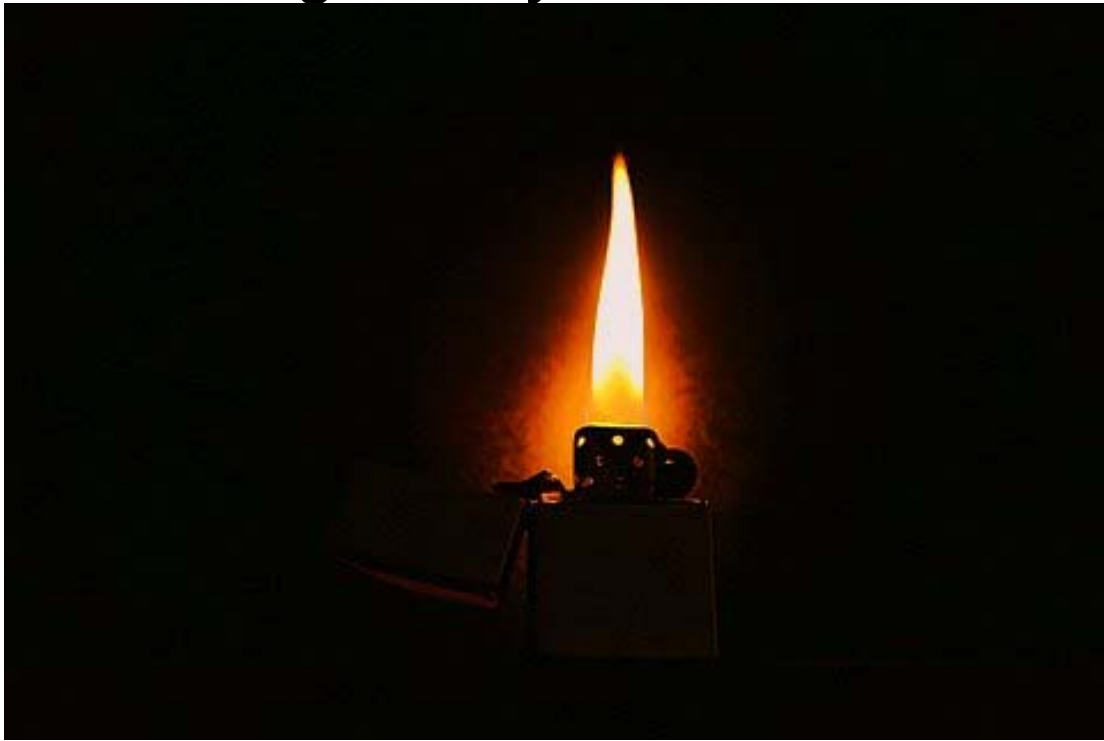
The fire thus kindled, may be revived again; the flames are extinguished, but the embers remain; one terrible blast may produce an ignition, which shall wrap the whole South in wild conflagration.

The pathway of tyrants lies over volcanoes; the very air they breathe is heavy with sorrows; agonizing heart-throbs convulse them while sleeping, and the wind whispers death as over them sweeping.

By all the laws of nature, civilization, and of progress, slavery is a doomed system.

Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.

U.S. Foreign Policy In The Middle East



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: February 26, 2012
Subject: U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East

U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East

The greatest awareness I had when I came back from Vietnam, was the over whelming realization that I was the enemy in Vietnam. It became the most powerful destructive force in my life. Everything became an emotional whiteout.

I become a stranger in a strange land.
Fast forward over 40 years, and it is the
same nightmare all over again.
While Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have
experienced multiple tours, Vietnam vets
have experienced multiple wars.
The Zippo lighter was a powerful weapon
in Vietnam.
And after it was used on countless villages,
the fire continued to destroyed countless
Vietnam veterans when they came home.
The U.S. Government saw it as destroying
the evidence.

I have met very few Vietnam vets, who did
not know at least one Vietnam vet who
committed suicide, or destroyed himself
with the fire of drugs and alcohol.
Three of my close friends from Vietnam
did not die in Vietnam, but as a result of
being there.
The last one hung himself in a motel room
four years ago.
Zippo, he was gone.
Zippo, that part of American history is gone.
Zippo, America is repeating the same lies in
the Middle East.

The U.S. propaganda machine is like a Zippo lighter,
it is absolutely necessary to burn American history in
order to save it.
In order to repeat it.
Fasten your seat belts,
the Pentagon has a lot more villages to burn.

Mike Hastie
Army Medic Vietnam
February 26, 2012

"It became necessary to destroy the village in order to save it."
An American major after the destruction of the Vietnamese
village Ben Tre.

Photo and caption from portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71.
(For more of his outstanding work, contact at: (hastiemike@earthlink.net) T)

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head.
The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a
so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen
of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004

**“There Is No Contradiction
Between Opposing Every
Instance Of US Meddling In Iran
And Supporting The Popular,
Democratic Struggles Of
Ordinary Iranians Against
Dictatorship”**

**“Iranian Dissidents, Like
Dissidents In The US, See Their
Own Government As Their Main
Enemy”**

**“The Fact That Iranian Activists Also
Have To Deal With Sanctions And
Threats Of Military Action From The
US Only Makes Their Work And Their
Lives More Difficult”**

**“US-Based Activists Must Not
Undermine The Brave And Endangered**

Work Of Iranian Opposition Groups By Supporting The Regime That Is Ruthlessly Trying To Crush Them”

Feb 19 2011 by Raha Iranian Feminist Collective, Jadaliyya.com [Excerpts]

While building solidarity between activists in the U.S. and Iran can be a powerful way of supporting social justice movements in Iran, progressives and leftists who want to express solidarity with Iranians are challenged by a complicated geopolitical terrain.

The U.S. government shrilly decries Iran’s nuclear power program and expands a long-standing sanctions regime on the one hand, and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad makes inflammatory proclamations and harshly suppresses Iranian protesters and dissidents on the other.

Solidarity activists are often caught between a rock and a hard place, and many choose what they believe are the “lesser evil” politics.

In the case of Iran, this has meant aligning with a repressive state leader under the guise of “anti-imperialism” and “populism,” or supporting “targeted” sanctions.

As members of a feminist collective founded in part to support the massive post-election protests in Iran in 2009, while opposing all forms of US intervention, we take this opportunity to reflect on the meaning and practice of transnational solidarity between US-based activists and sections of Iranian society.

In this article, we look at the remarkable situation in which both protests against and expressions of support for Ahmadinejad are articulated under the banner of support for the “Iranian people.”

In particular, we examine the claims of critics of the Iranian regime who have advocated the use of “targeted sanctions” against human rights violators in the Iranian government as a method of solidarity.

Despite their name, these sanctions trickle down to punish broader sections of the population. They also stand as a stunning example of American power and hypocrisy, since no country dare sanction the US for its illegal wars, torture practices and program of extrajudicial assassinations.

We then assess the positions of some “anti-imperialist” activists who not only oppose war and sanctions on Iran but also defend Ahmadinejad as a populist president expressing the will of the majority of the Iranian people.

In fact, Ahmadinejad’s aggressive neo-liberal economic policies represent a right-wing attack on living standards and on various social welfare provisions established after the revolution.

And finally, we offer an alternative notion of and method for building international solidarity “from below,” one that offers a way out of “lesser evil” politics and turns the focus away from the state and onto those movement activists in the streets.

We hope the analysis that follows will provoke much needed discussion among a broad range of activists, journalists and scholars about how to rethink a practice of transnational solidarity that does not homogenize entire populations, cast struggling people outside the US as perpetual and helpless victims, or perpetuate unequal power relations between peoples and nations.

Acts of solidarity that cross borders must be based on building relationships with activists in disparate locations, on an understanding of the different issues and conditions of struggle various movements face, and on exchanges of support among grassroots activists rather than governments, with each group committed to opposing oppression locally as well as globally.

The Spectrum Of Protest

Numerous protests and actions took place over the week of Ahmadinejad's UN visit in September 2010, with at least eight activist groups organizing protests on the day of his General Assembly address--all claiming to speak in the interests of the Iranian people.

However, despite some commonalities, these voices represented very different political approaches and agendas. Whether clearly articulated or not, one major fault line was on the question of the appropriate US and international role in relation to Iran, especially on the issues of sanctions and war.

The protests gaining the most media attention were organized by a newly-formed coalition called Iran180 and by the Mojahedin-e Khalq (PMOI). Both take a hard line, pro-sanctions position on Iran.

Iran180, launched by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, organized a press conference under the banner “human rights, not nuclear rights.” The PMOI on the other hand, held a large rally of reportedly 2000 participants from far and wide. The PMOI is an organization known for its militant opposition to the Iranian regime and its anti-democratic, cult-like structure; it has been largely discredited among Iranians and is also listed as a “terrorist” organization by the State Department. Speakers included former mayor Rudy Giuliani, former US ambassador to the UN John Bolton, and British Tory MP David Amess, all calling for a hard line on Iran and apparently positioning the PMOI as the legitimate diasporic alternative to the current Iranian leadership.

By contrast, Where Is My Vote-NY (WIMV), an organization formed to express solidarity with Iranian protests after the contested election in 2009. They mobilized around a platform that called for holding Ahmadinejad accountable but also took an explicit no war and no sanctions position, making them the only organization to do so.

WIMV's strong anti-sanctions stance has been controversial among some human rights activists in the US who have supported sanctions that are supposed to target individual Iranian human rights violators.

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International pulled out of a WIMV-organized protest in September 2009 because they refused to endorse the WIMV platform.

Below we size up the efficacy of “targeted” sanctions that claim to be in support of the human rights of Iranians.

The Record Of “Targeted” Sanctions

From 1990 until 2003, a United States-led United Nations coalition placed what amounted to crippling financial and trade sanctions on Iraq in an ostensible effort to weaken Saddam Hussein’s authoritarian regime. Sanctions, we were told, amounted to a humane way of combating intransigent authoritarianism around the world while avoiding mass bloodshed.

The results of that strategy should have shattered these illusions for good.

Despite the benefit of this hindsight, we are being told again to trust in the human rights agenda of a state-sponsored sanctions effort as an alternative to war, this time against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In fact, some form of sanctions against the Islamic Republic have been in place with little effect for over thirty years. But since President Barack Obama took office, the sanctions have been amped up to new heights.

The stated goal: limiting Iran’s nuclear program.

Soon after, the European Union imposed its own set of economic sanctions. A month later, President Obama signed into law the most extensive sanctions regime Iran has ever seen with the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions Accountability and Divestment Act of 2010 (CISADA).

It should not be surprising, given the United States’ historic attempts at controlling Iranian oil, that CISADA’s primary target is the management of the Iranian petroleum industry.

These sanctions would penalize any foreign company that sells refined petroleum products to Iran, which are a necessity for Iran’s primary industry as well as for the everyday functioning of modern life. This winter, shortages of imported refined gasoline forced the Iranian government to convert petro-chemical plants into makeshift refineries that produce fuel loaded with dangerous particles. As a result, the capital city of Tehran has been plagued by unprecedented levels of pollution, shutting down schools and businesses for days at a time and leading to skyrocketing rates of respiratory illnesses and at least 3,641 pollution-related deaths.

The current round of U.S.-led sanctions have had the effect of cutting off more of Iranian businesses because foreign companies are simply unsure of whether or not their business is sanctioned. As a stipulation of the US, EU, and UN sanctions, no corporations or private individuals can do business with the majority of Iranian banks or industries.

Parts and supplies for a great deal of machinery—and not only those potentially associated with nuclear industry — are denied entry into Iran; indeed, one of the deadly examples of the effects of these sanctions in recent years has been the spate of commercial Iranian aircrafts that have crashed due to faulty or out-of-date parts.

These measures have already had disastrous effects on the Iranian economy and the health ordinary Iranian citizens, adding to historic levels of inflation, unemployment and pollution-related illness.

No member of any Iran-based opposition group—from leaders of the “green” movement, to activists in the women’s and student movement, to labor organizers—have called for or supported the US/UN/EU sanctions against the Islamic Republic.

On the contrary, leaders from virtually all of these groups have vocally opposed the implementation of sanctions precisely because they have witnessed the Iranian state grow stronger, and the wellbeing of ordinary Iranians suffer, as a result.

Imposing sanctions in the name of “human rights,” as the US did for the first time this fall, doesn’t alter these outcomes.

The US government’s long record of either complicity with or silence regarding the treatment of dissidents in Iran--from the 1950s when it helped train the brutal SAVAK torture squads right through to the post-election crackdown in 2009--makes it nothing if not hypocritical on the issue of human rights in Iran.

The Spectrum Of Support

In stark contrast to the range of groups protesting the Iranian president and the Islamic Republic’s policies, some 130 activists from anti-war, labor and anti-racist organizations took an altogether different approach in September 2010, attending a dinner with Ahmadinejad hosted by the Iranian Mission to the UN.

According to one attendee, the goal of the dinner was to “share our hopes for peace and justice with the Iranian people through their president and his wife.”

During two and half hours of speeches, activists embraced Ahmadinejad as an ally and partner in the global struggle for peace and, with few exceptions, ignored the fact that his administration is responsible for a brutal crackdown on dissent in Iran.

Rather than listening to the millions of Iranians who protested unfair elections and political repression, these activists heard only the siren song of Ahmadinejad’s “anti-imperialist” stance, his vehement criticism of Israel and his statements about US government complicity with the September 11th attacks.

Their credibility as consistent supporters of social justice has been shipwrecked in the process.

Many of these groups are numerically small organizations with histories of denying atrocities carried out by heads of state that oppose US domination. [1]

But some attendees are national figures, such as former US Congresswoman and 2008 Green Party presidential candidate Cynthia McKinney, who has been a beacon of principled opposition to neo-liberalism and the “war on terror.”

Below we take up the most common reasons attendees expressed for standing with the regime--that it has populist economic policies benefiting workers and the poor, is anti-imperialist and pro-Palestine.

Do Ahmadinejad’s Policies Support Iranian Workers And The Poor?

One of the most bewildering misrepresentations of Ahmadinejad outside Iran has been around his economic policies, which are often represented by the US left as populist or even pro-working class.

In reality, the extent and the speed of privatization in Iran under Ahmadinejad has been unprecedented, and disastrous, for the majority of the Iranian people.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)’s report on the Iranian state’s neo-liberal policies glows with approval, confirming once again that the Fund has no problem supporting undemocratic attacks on the living standards of ordinary people.

Privatization in Iran has happened under government/military control. State-affiliated actors, mainly Sepah, have bought a huge share of the country’s economic institutions and contracts--from small companies all the way to the largest national corporations such as telecommunications, oil and gas.

Recently, despite vast opposition even from the parliament, the government annulled gasoline and food subsidies that have been in place for decades. Gas prices quadruped, while the price of bread tripled, almost overnight.

This is an attack on workers and the poor of historic proportions that had been in the works for many years but was delayed due to fear of a popular backlash.

It was only under conditions of extreme militarization and suppression of dissent that Ahmadinejad’s administration could finally implement this plan.

Arguing that subsidies should go only to those the regime decides are deserving, the government will now be able to use this massive budget to reward supporters and/or buy loyalty. The massive unregulated import of foreign products, especially from China, has made it impossible for agricultural and industrial domestic producers to survive. Import venues are mainly controlled by the government and Sepah, which profit enormously from their monopolies.

These hasty and haphazard developments have severely destabilized Iran’s economy in the past few years, leading to rocketing inflation (25-30%) and growing poverty. Unemployment is very high; no official statistics are available but rough estimates are

around 30%, creating fertile ground for recruitment into the state's military and police apparatus (similar to the "poverty draft" in the United States).

Is The Ahmadinejad Administration Anti-Imperialist?

The 1978–79 revolution was one of the most inspiring popular uprisings against imperialism and homegrown despotism the world has seen, successfully wresting Iran away from US control over Iranian oilfields and ending its role as a watchdog for US interests in the region.

Denunciations of American imperialism were a unifying rallying cry and formed a key pillar of revolutionary ideology.

However, in the more that thirty years since, the Iranian government has, like all nations, ruthlessly pursued its interests on the world stage.

Despite its anti-American/anti-imperialist rhetoric, Iran cannot survive without capital investment from and trade with other "imperial" nations, without integration into a world market that is ordered according to the relative military and economic strength of various states.

Witness the large oil, gas, and development contracts granted to Russia and China, and the way that these countries, as well as France and Germany, have cashed in on the Iranian consumer goods market. The Islamic government has even cut deals with the US, such as during the infamous Iran-Contra episode, when it served its interests.

US opposition to Iran's nuclear program, and multiple rounds of sanctions, should be understood as part of the American effort to re-exert control over this geo-politically strategic country and re-enter the race for Iranian energy resources and markets from which it has been shut out.

Iran's foreign policy cannot and should not be reduced to one individual's inflammatory speeches.

In fact, the same Ahmadinejad who grabs western media headlines by criticizing the US is the first Iranian president to send a letter directly to a US president requesting a new era of diplomacy, something unthinkable under previous administrations.

Diplomacy, to be clear, carries with it the goal of re-entering a direct relationship with the so-called "Great Satan." Far from acting as an outpost of anti-imperialism, the Ahmadinejad administration is maneuvering to cut the best deal possible and to renegotiate its place in the global hierarchy of nations.

Given its massive oil and gas resources and strategic location, Iran would likely be playing a far more significant and powerful role if not for decades of isolation, sanctions and hostility from the US. It is in the Iranian governments interests to break this stranglehold. Its strategy is to play all cards possible in extending its regional influence in smaller and weaker countries, such as Lebanon and the occupied territories of Palestine. As Mohammad Khazaee, the Iranian ambassador to the UN told the New York Times, Iran is a regional "heavyweight" and deserves to be treated as such.

The Iranian government's support for Palestinians also scores it major points with many leftists in the US and around the world. Again, it is crucial to see through the rhetoric and examine the more complex aims and effects of Iran's policies.

While the Iranian government does send material aid to Palestinians suffering under Israeli blockades and in refugee camps in Lebanon, they have also manipulated the situation quite cynically for purposes that have nothing to do with Palestinian liberation. Using money to buy support from Palestinians, and financing and arming the Hezbollah army in Lebanon, are crucial ways the Islamic Republic exerts its influence in the region.

There is no mechanism for Palestinians or Lebanese people, who are impacted by Iran's actions, to have any say in how Iran intervenes in their struggles, even when the results are harmful.

For instance, Ahmadinejad's holocaust denials undermine the credibility of Palestinian efforts to oppose Israeli apartheid by reinforcing the false equation between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. At the 2001 UN conference against racism in Durban, South Africa, an anti-Zionist coalition emerged and got a hearing. But at the 2009 conference in Geneva, Ahmadinejad's speech on the first day overshadowed the whole conference and undermined any possible critique of Israel, creating a serious set back for the anti-Zionist movement.

Relentless state propaganda about Palestine coming from an unpopular regime has tragically resulted in the Iranian people's alienation from the Palestinian's struggle for freedom.

Leaving aside the hypocrisy of Ahmadinejad claiming to care about the rights of Palestinians while trampling on those of his own citizens, the policy of sending humanitarian aid to Palestinians while impoverishing Iranians has produced massive domestic resentment.

In an article on The Electronic Intifada, Khashayar Safavi attempted to link the pro-democracy Iranian opposition to broader questions of justice in the region. "We are not traitors, nor pro-American, nor Zionist 'agents,'" he wrote, responding to Ahmadinejad's verbal attacks on the movement, "(W)e merely want the same freedom to live, to exist and to resist as we demand for the Palestinians and for the Lebanese."

Unfortunately, sections of the US left support the self-determination of Palestinians while undermining that of Iranians by supporting Ahmadinejad's government. We now look at some of the key problems of Ahmadinejad's government, exposing the high cost of aligning with repressive state leaders.

Harsh Realities For Labor And Other Social Justice Organizing In Iran

Currently no form of independent organizing, political or economic, is tolerated in Iran.

Attempts at organizing workers and labor unions have been particularly subject to violent repression.

The crushing of the bus drivers' union, one of the rare attempts at independent unionizing in the last few decades, is one of the better-known examples. The story of Mansour Osanloo, one of the main organizers of the syndicate, illustrates the incredible pressure and cruelty labor organizers and their families experience at the hands of the regime.

In June 2010, his pregnant daughter-in-law was attacked and beaten up by pro-regime thugs while getting on subway. They took her with them by force and after hours of torture, left her under a bridge in Tehran. She was in dire health and had a miscarriage.

These unofficial security forces continued to harass her at home in order to put psychological pressure on Osanloo, who is still in prison and is not yielding to the government's demands to stop organizing.

Currently, even conservative judiciary officials are complaining about violations of their authority by parallel security and military forces who arrest people, conduct interrogations and carry out torture, pressure judges to issue harsh sentences, and are implicated in the suspicious murders of dissidents. (In the past few months, not only political dissidents, but even physicians who have witnessed some of the tortures or consequences of them, have been murdered.)

No opposition parties are allowed to function.

No independent media--no newspapers magazines, radio or television stations--can survive, other than websites that must constantly battle government censorship.

The prisons are full of journalists and activists from across Iranian society. Conditions in Iran's prisons are gruesome. Prisoners are deprived of any rights or a fair trial, a violation of Iranian law.

After the election protests, killing, murder and rape of protesters and prisoners caused a scandal, which resulted in the closing of the notorious Kahrizak prison.

Executions continue, however, as the government has meted out hundreds of death sentences in the last year. Iran has the second highest number of executions among all countries and the highest number per capita. In January 2011, executions soared to a rate of one every eight hours.

The women's movement has been another major target of repression in the past few years.

Dozens of activists have been arrested and imprisoned for conducting peaceful campaigns for legal equality; many have been forced to flee the country and many more are continually harassed and threatened. Women collecting signatures on a petition demanding the right to divorce and to child custody are often unfairly accused of "disturbing public order," "threatening national security," and "insulting religious values."

Ahmadinejad's government employs a wide range of patriarchal discourses and policies designed to roll back even small gains achieved by women.

Ahmadinejad's anti-immigrant positions and policies are the harshest of any administration in the past few decades.

The largest forced return of Afghan immigrants happened under his government, ripping families apart and forcing thousands across the border (with many deaths reported in winter due to severe cold).

Marriage between Iranians and Afghan immigrants is not allowed and Afghan children do not have any rights, not even to attend school.

Moreover, Ahmadinejad's government has been repressive toward different ethnic groups in Iran, particularly Kurds. It is promoting a militarist Shia-Islamist-nationalist agenda and escalating Shia-Sunni divisions.

Given these realities, how is it that large parts of the US left can support Ahmadinejad?

We now look at the confusions that make such a position possible.

US Left Support For Ahmadinejad

Despite the many differences between the individuals and groups represented at that dinner with Ahmadinejad a few months ago, what the overwhelming majority of them have in common is a mistaken idea of what it means to be anti-imperialist or anti-war.

The sycophantic speeches at the dinner can be understood as an enactment of the old adage "the enemy of my enemy is my friend."

There are two problems with this approach. The first is that it equates governments with entire populations, the very mistake the activists at that dinner are always saying we shouldn't make when it comes to US society.

The second problem is that support for Ahmadinejad means siding with the regime that crushed a democratic people's movement in Iran.

This position pits US-based activists who want to stop a war with Iran against the democratic aspirations and struggles of millions of Iranians.

Part of the confusion may stem from a distorted notion of what it means to speak from inside "the belly of the beast."

In other words, the argument goes, those of us in the United States have a foremost responsibility to oppose the actual and threatened atrocities of our own government, not to sit in hypocritical judgment over other, lesser state powers.

But in the case of the vicious crackdown on all forms of dissent inside Iran, not judging is, in practice, silent complicity.

If anti-imperialism means the right to only criticize the US government, we end up with a politics that is, ironically, so US-centric as to undermine the possibility of international solidarity with people who have to simultaneously stand up to their own dictatorial governments and to the behemoth of US power.

The fact that the US is the global superpower, and therefore the most dangerous nation-state, does not somehow nullify the oppressive actions of other governments.

China, for example, is increasingly participating in economic imperialism across Asia and Africa, exploiting natural resources and labor forces well beyond its borders.

There is more than one source of oppression, and even imperialism, in the world. The necessity to hold “our” government accountable in the US must not preclude a crucial imperative of solidarity--the ability to understand the context of other people’s struggles, to stand in their shoes.

If any of the activists defending Ahmadinejad would honestly attempt to do this, they might have some disturbing realizations.

For example, if those same individuals or groups tried to speak out and organize in Iran for their current political agendas--against government targeting of activists, against ballooning military budgets, against media censorship, against the death penalty, against a rigged electoral system, for labors rights, women’s rights, the rights of sexual minorities and to free political prisoners--they would themselves be in jail or worse.

Given that these are the issues that guide the work of these leftists in the US, we must ask: don’t the Iranian people also deserve the right to fight for a progressive agenda of their choosing without execution, imprisonment and torture?

As we demand rights for activists here, don’t we have to support those same rights for activists in Iran?

Solidarity: Concrete And From Below

In the tangle of conflicting messages about who speaks for the “people of Iran”--a diverse population with a range of views and interests--what has been sorely lacking in the US is a broad-based progressive/left position on Iran that supports democratization, judicial transparency, political rights, economic justice, social freedoms and self-determination.

There is no contradiction between opposing every instance of US meddling in Iran--and every other country--and supporting the popular, democratic struggles of ordinary Iranians against dictatorship.

Effective international solidarity requires that the two go hand in hand, for example, by linking the struggles of political prisoners in Iran and with those of political prisoners in the US, not by counterposing them.

Iranian dissidents, like dissidents in the US, see their own government as their main enemy.

The fact that Iranian activists also have to deal with sanctions and threats of military action from the US only makes their work and their lives more difficult.

The US and Iranian governments are, of course, not equal in their global reach, but both stand in the way of popular democracy and human liberation.

US-based activists must not undermine the brave and endangered work of Iranian opposition groups by supporting the regime that is ruthlessly trying to crush them.

Internationalism has to start from below, from the differently articulated aspirations of mass movements against state militarism, dictatorship, economic crisis, gender, sexual, religious, class and ethnic oppression, in Iran, in the US and all over the world.

For activists in the US, this means being against sanctions on Iran, whether they are in the name of “human rights” or the nuclear issue.

It means refusing to cast the US as the land of progress and freedom while Iran is demonized as backward and oppressive.

Solidarity is not charity or pity; it flows from an understanding of mutual--though far from identical--struggle. It means consistent opposition to human rights violations in the US, to the rampant sexism and homophobia that lead to violence and destroy people’s lives right here.

But we don’t have to hide another state’s brutality behind our complaints about conditions in America.

We have to be just as clear in condemning state crimes against activists, journalists and others in Iran, just as critical of the Iranian versions of neo-liberalism and oligarchy, of attacks on trade unions, women and students, as we are of the US versions.

For solidarity to be effective, it must be concrete.

It is our hope that these struggles may be increasingly linked as social justice activists in the US and Iran find productive ways of working together, as well as in our different contexts and locations, towards the similar goals of greater democracy and human liberation.

[1] For example, Workers World, ANSWER and several other groups who share the same political tradition have historically supported Soviet crackdowns against popular uprisings in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, the Chinese

state's massacre of unarmed protesters at Tiananmen Square in 1989 and the ethnic cleansings carried out by ultra-nationalist Milosevic throughout the 1990s.

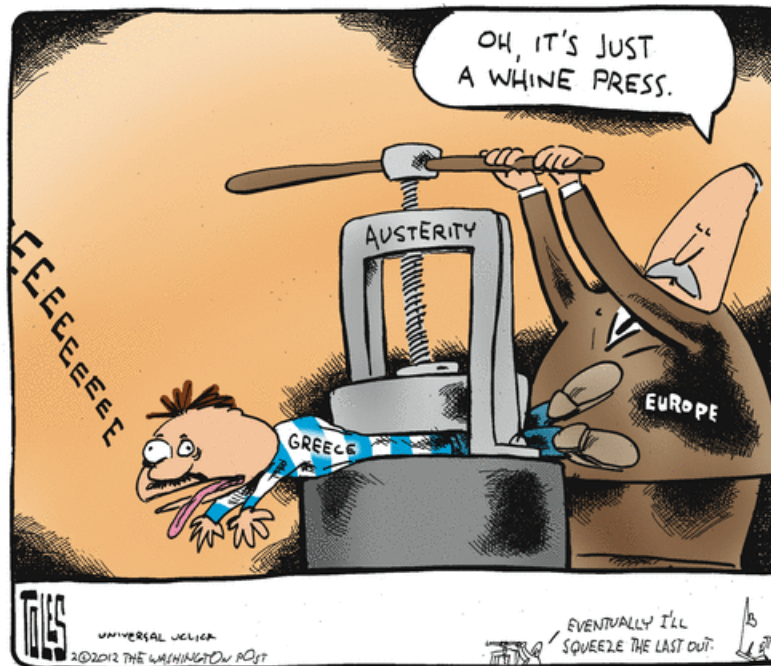
DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?

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

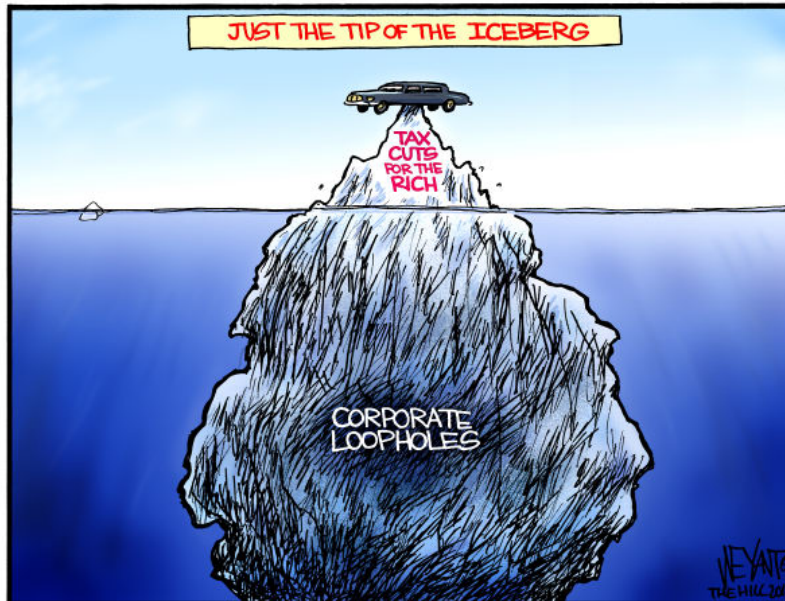
DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

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

CLASS WAR REPORTS



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.

Military Resistance www.militaryproject.org

This is how Obama brings the troops home,
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.



Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members
www.militaryproject.org

The complex block features a header with the title "Military Resistance" and the website URL. Below this is a quote: "This is how Obama brings the troops home, BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE." The quote is positioned above a photograph showing several soldiers in full combat gear, including helmets and vests, carrying a wounded comrade on a stretcher. The scene appears to be outdoors, possibly in a field or a military installation. At the bottom of the block, there is a line of text: "Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members" followed by the website URL again.

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.