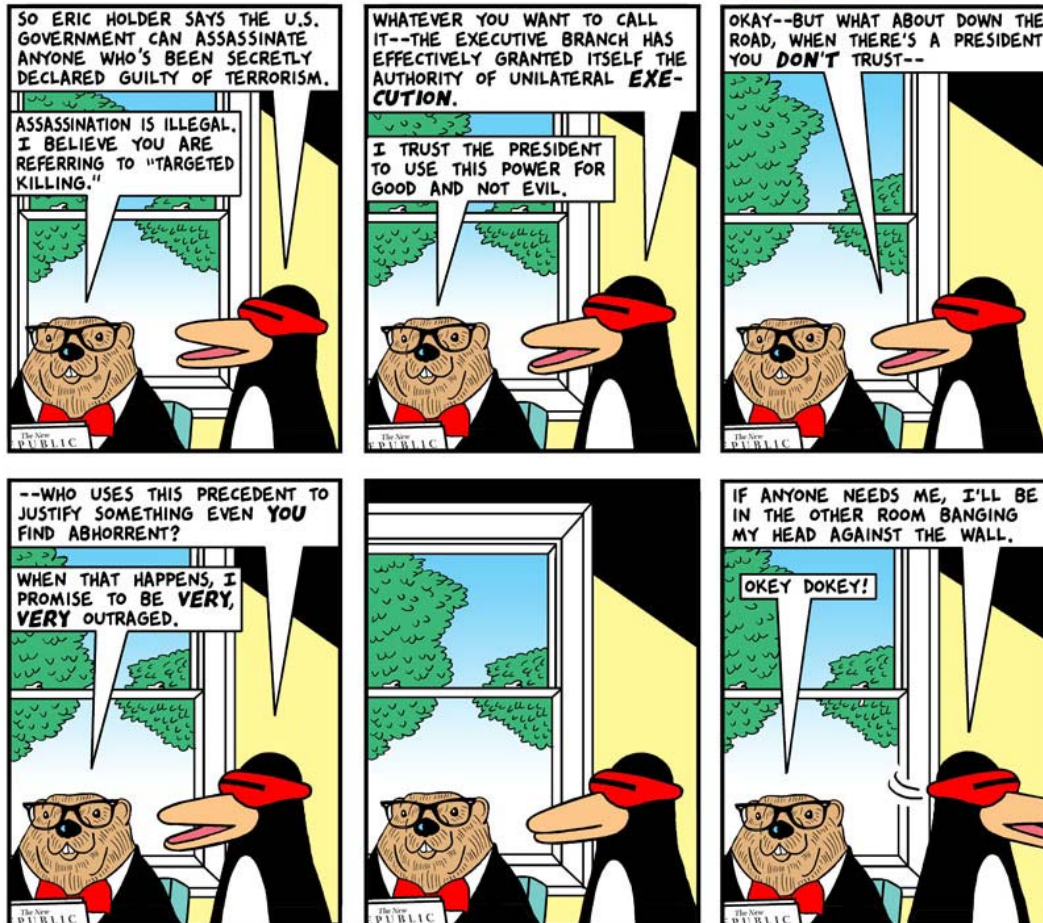


## Military Resistance 10E19

### **THIS MODERN WORLD**

by TOM TOMORROW



**Army Expands Use Of Early Discharge Authority Of Regular Army Enlisted Members:  
"The Defense Department Begins Downsizing The Army"**

# **“Congress Recently Amended Legislation That Expands The Services’ Authority To Separate Regular Army Enlisted Members From Three Months To One Year Prior To Their Scheduled Date Of Separation”**

May 26, 2012 By Susy Raybon, Military Community Examiner [Excerpts]

The Pentagon released information yesterday that will impact hundreds of soldiers as the Defense Department begins downsizing the Army.

“Congress recently amended legislation that expands the services’ authority to separate Regular Army enlisted members from three months to one year prior to their scheduled date of separation, referred to as Expiration Term of Service (ETS).”

The Army plans to begin using this authority in the next few days in a very targeted manner to address readiness by stabilizing enlisted soldiers at least six months prior to deployment.

The Army states this ruling is directed towards a small percentage of soldiers in deploying units who remain in the unit’s rear detachment due to insufficient time remaining before ETS to complete the deployment.

“The Army will not immediately increase the period of early separation to one year, rather it will implement this change in a phased manner based on scheduled unit deployment dates.”

Soldiers assigned to deploying units whose scheduled separation date precludes them from deploying with their unit will be given the opportunity to reenlist or extend.

Additionally, soldiers with more than three years of active service, but less than six years of service (in total) who elect not to reenlist (or extend) will be subject to involuntary early separation.

Commanders have the authority to retain a soldier for operational necessity and the discretion to retain a soldier for compassionate reasons. Army Human Resources Command and Army G-1 will send commanders and soldiers implementation guidance.

**Military Resistance Available In PDF Format**

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email: [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org)

## AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

# Three Foreign Occupation “Servicemembers” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced: Two Helicopters Down

May 28, 2012 CNN

Kabul, Afghanistan (CNN) -- Two foreign troops were killed in one of two helicopter crashes Monday in eastern Afghanistan, officials said.

The first helicopter crash, during a routine operation, did not result in any fatalities, said ISAF spokesman Capt. Justin Brockhoff. Two died in the second crash.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said in an e-mail that the two helicopters were shot down.

**A third service member died Monday in an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan, the coalition said in a news release. No further details were released on the attack or the crashes.**

After the first crash, those on board the chopper were taken to a NATO facility for evaluation.

Three police and four tribal elders were killed in a roadside bombing, police said. The roadside bombing Monday struck a car in northern Baghlan province. All seven in the car died, police said. The Taliban claimed responsibility in a text message from Mujahid. The police were targeted, he said.

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## Family And Friends Share Stories About Sgt. Jabraun Knox

25 May 2012 WANE

AUBURN, Ind. (WANE) – Courtney Knox got emotional Thursday afternoon while discussing her husband Sgt. JaBraun Steven Knox, 23 who was killed in Afghanistan on May 18.

Sgt. Knox's wife and mother addressed media publicly for the first time since his passing. They shared stories about Knox and talked about his funeral arrangements.

Courtney spoke about how he proposed to her before his first deployment, their son Braylon who was born in October of last year, and how he had just surprised friends and family a couple weeks ago by showing up in Auburn.

Dakota Smith, Knox's friend, spoke about how he remembers Knox as the kind of person who would give his all for anyone in need.

Sgt. Knox's body will be flown into the DeKalb County airport Saturday and Funeral arrangements have been made for Tuesday, May 29.

Knox's obituary posted on the Feller and Clark Funeral Home website stated Sgt. Knox was stationed in Afghanistan since November 2011 with the First Battalion 377 Field Artillery Regiment and that he was killed in action Friday, May 18, 2012, in Afghanistan when an enemy rocket struck an area where extra shells were stored.

He had served in the Army for more than three years and was based at Fort Lewis, Wash. He was previously deployed to Iraq.

JaBraun was a 2007 graduate of DeKalb High School where he excelled in sports. He played quarterback and defense in football and center field in baseball. In both sports, he won all-conference honors from the Northeast Hoosier Conference and first-team all-area recognition from KPC Media Group.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Auburn.

He was born in Fort Wayne on July 13, 1988. His parents Kenneth and Kelly (Macke) Knox live in Auburn as does his wife Courtney. They married on November 9, 2009, in Fort Wayne.

JaBraun is survived by his infant son, Braylon Knox; a sister and a brother, Amara Knox and Ty Knox, both of Auburn; and his grandparents, Roger and Carrie Macke of Fort Wayne, Vernell Nelson of Fort Wayne and Barbara Knox of Edgerton, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by two grandfathers, Sim Nelson and O'Neil Knox, and an uncle, Sim Nelson Jr.

Services are scheduled for 2 p.m., on Tuesday May 29, 2012 at the National Military History Center south of Auburn. Burial will be in Highland Park Cemetery, Fort Wayne. Calling is 12 to 3 and 5 to 8 p.m. Monday at Feller and Clark Funeral Home, 1860 South Center Street, Auburn, IN.

Memorials can be directed to a trust for Braylon Knox at PNC Bank in Auburn or Wounded Warriors Program.

Feller and Clark Funeral Home of Auburn are handling arrangements.

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## **A Visible Sacrifice: Bomb Blast Robs Iowa Sailor Of Parts Of Four Limbs**



Taylor Morris, 23, learns how to balance again after undergoing four amputations as a result of a bomb blast in Afghanistan on May 3. He was just months into his first deployment when the explosion occurred. / Photos special to the Register

May. 27, 2012 Written by WILLIAM PETROSKI, Des Moines Register

The bomb blast in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, earlier this month took so much from Taylor Morris, a former soccer player and top-notch wrestler at Cedar Falls High School.

Morris, 23, lost his right leg at the knee, his left leg at mid-thigh, his right arm at the wrist and his left arm at the elbow.

But somehow, the explosion did little damage to his major organs. And it didn't dent his determination to recover and move on with his life. His parents are grateful for both those blessings.

"We are blessed in that his organs and core received only scratches ... and we are thankful for that," said Juli Morris, Taylor's mother.

He remains a patient at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center near Washington, D.C., where his condition is improving daily, although he has endured repeated surgeries to close his wounds.

This Memorial Day, near Menlo in western Iowa, a boulder known as the "Freedom Rock," painted each year with patriotic themes, includes a tribute to Taylor Morris. Ray

“Bubba” Sorensen, who revises the painting every year, had planned to honor an uncle on the north panel, but changed his mind after learning of Morris’ wounds.

Maria Sorensen, who helps her husband operate a mural painting studio, cried after reading Juli Morris’ online journal detailing her son’s ordeal. “We have been so moved by this story. It is just an inspiration. They are my heroes. Talking about looking at a glass half full. That’s them,” Maria Sorensen said.

U.S. Rep. Bruce Braley, D-Waterloo, recently stopped at Walter Reed to visit Taylor Morris and his family. “We had a very good conversation. He was very lucid when I talked to him. He was sitting there upright in his bed,” Braley said.

“He is obviously surrounded by loving parents and a very special young woman in his life who has been going through this ordeal with him. It is just remarkable how positive and upbeat everyone is, in spite of these incredible challenges they are all facing.”

The congressman said he wishes that wounds such as those the Iowa sailor suffered were rare. But he said he sees wounded warriors touring the nation’s Capitol almost daily, many of them with multiple amputations.

“On Memorial Day, it is important for everyone in Iowa not to just think about those who gave their lives, but those who gave much of their bodies, and are going to be facing a long-term challenge as to how they move forward with their life,” Braley said.

Taylor Morris, a U.S. Navy explosive ordnance disposal technician, was wounded May 3 by an improvised explosive device while on foot patrol with U.S. forces in Kandahar province.

He had only arrived in Afghanistan in February, his first deployment.

He joined the Navy right out of high school in 2007 and has always been interested in Navy special operations, his mother said.

Based at Virginia Beach, he underwent 10 months of training in disarming and disposing explosive ordnance, in addition to underwater dive training and parachute jump school so he could accompany Special Forces on missions. Based at Virginia Beach, he was attached to a unit of Army Green Berets at the time he was wounded.

At Taylor’s side at Walter Reed have been his mother, his father, Dan Morris, and Taylor’s girlfriend, Danielle Kelly. He’s also getting support from two sisters, Molly, 25, and Claire, 19, and a brother, Riley, 21, who just finished basic training with the National Guard. He’s also had many visits from Special Forces members with whom he has served.

While Taylor will not be able to stay in the Navy and faces extensive rehabilitation at Walter Reed, he will have the potential to lead a normal life with prosthetics, according to his mother.

“I can tell you that Taylor is looking forward to rehabilitation, as they tell him unbelievable stories of recovery. His attitude and patience are amazing and we are humbled by his

pain tolerance. I guess if anyone can do it, Taylor can. He is a determined and hardworking kid,” Juli Morris said.

Taylor’s family requests prayers, “lots of positive energy sent our way and no sugar (a Mom request),” said Juli Morris. “Taylor is very focused on nourishing his body so that he can be prepared physically for healing and his next challenge — the strength building so that he can transition to prosthetics.”

Since news spread about the wounds suffered by the sailor, he and his family said they have been stunned by the overwhelming support from people back home and elsewhere. Many people have logged onto a website — [taylormorris.org](http://taylormorris.org) — that has been established on his behalf, as well as a CaringBridge website.

An Army soldier who served with Morris wrote on one: “Taylor, stay strong and keep your head up. All of your Army brothers from OD 7224 (a Special Forces unit) are keeping you in our prayers. If you need anything, remember we’re here for you and your family.”

A Waterloo woman wrote: “Dan and Juli, My prayers are with you in this difficult time. I pray for Taylor’s recovery.

Taylor is blessed to have you for his parents ... both of you are courageous, supportive, positive and very loving people. I know that God is holding all of you in His strong, loving arms and is comforting each one of you. God Bless.”

In Cedar Falls, a fundraiser is being held June 7-10 at Tony’s La Pizzeria.

Donations will be accepted for Taylor and his family, and employees will donate all tips received on June 10.

The event is being organized by Trevor McCormack, who graduated from high school with Taylor and Danielle.

“Taylor is a great kid, very nice, always a happy kind of person,” McCormack said.

“To be honest, I wasn’t a close friend; I only hung out with him in groups, but one of the main reasons why I am doing this is that obviously his life has changed.

“This has put a big dent in his lifestyle, and I am in a position to help him.”

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

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



## **UNREMITTING HELL ON EARTH; ALL HOME NOW**



U.S. Army soldiers from Alpha troop, 4-73 Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division carry an injured comrade to a helicopter during a firefight with Taliban during a mission in the Maiwand district of Kandahar province, April 9, 2012. REUTERS/Baz Ratner

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## **“Afghanistan’s Central Bamyan Province, Widely Reputed To Be The Safest In The Country, Has Seen A Worrying Rise In Insurgent Activity”**

27 May 2012 TOLONews

Afghanistan’s central Bamyan province, widely reputed to be the safest in the country, has seen a worrying rise in insurgent activity, according to the provincial police chief.

There are a small number of security forces in the province which has seen far less insurgent activity than most of the country’s other 33 provinces.

A new group of insurgents named Abdullah Kaltak have begun anti-government activity in this province.



Bamyan is located in the heart of Afghanistan and shares its provincial border with eight other provinces. However, the Kaltak group are mainly moving in from Baghlan province - north-east of Bamyan - which has had a more active insurgent network for some time.

The two provinces are divided by a mountainous border which the insurgents are crossing to make it into Bamyan.

New security checkpoints have already been created to address the problem, but the Afghan forces are not sufficiently equipped to deal with the problem if it worsens.

Bamyan was one of the first provinces to be transferred to Afghan security forces responsibility in the first phase of the five-tranche security transition.

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

## **MILITARY NEWS**

# **Iraq, Afghanistan Veterans Filing For Disability Benefits At Historic Rate:**

**“Body Armor And Improved  
Battlefield Care Allowed Many Of  
Them To Survive Wounds That In  
Past Wars Proved Fatal”**

**“You Just Can't Keep Sending People  
Into War Five, Six Or Seven Times And  
Expect That They're Going To Come  
Home Just Fine”**

05/27/12 By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, The Huffington Post [Excerpts]

America's newest veterans are filing for disability benefits at a historic rate ...

A staggering 45 percent of the 1.6 million veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are now seeking compensation for injuries they say are service-related. That is more than double the estimate of 21 percent who filed such claims after the Gulf War in the early 1990s, top government officials told The Associated Press.

Many factors are driving the dramatic increase in claims – the weak economy, more troops surviving wounds, and more awareness of problems such as concussions and PTSD. Almost one-third have been granted disability so far.

Aggressive outreach and advocacy efforts also have brought more veterans into the system, which must evaluate each claim to see if it is war-related. Payments range from \$127 a month for a 10 percent disability to \$2,769 for a full one.

As the nation commemorates the more than 6,400 troops who died in post-9/11 wars, the problems of those who survived also draw attention. These new veterans are seeking a level of help the government did not anticipate, and for which there is no special fund set aside to pay.

The Department of Veterans Affairs is mired in backlogged claims, but “our mission is to take care of whatever the population is,” said Allison Hickey, the VA’s undersecretary for benefits. “We want them to have what their entitlement is.”

The 21 percent who filed claims in previous wars is Hickey’s estimate of an average for Operation Desert Storm and Desert Shield. The VA has details only on the current disability claims being paid to veterans of each war.

More are from the Reserves and National Guard – 28 percent of those filing disability claims – rather than career military. Reserves and National Guard made up a greater percentage of troops in these wars than they did in previous ones. About 31 percent of Guard/Reserve new veterans have filed claims compared to 56 percent of career military ones.

More of the new veterans are women, accounting for 12 percent of those who have sought care through the VA. Women also served in greater numbers in these wars than in the past. Some female veterans are claiming PTSD due to military sexual trauma – a new challenge from a disability rating standpoint, Hickey said.

**The new veterans have different types of injuries than previous veterans did.**

**That’s partly because improvised bombs have been the main weapon and because body armor and improved battlefield care allowed many of them to survive wounds that in past wars proved fatal.**

**“They’re being kept alive at unprecedented rates,” said Dr. David Cifu, the VA’s medical rehabilitation chief. More than 95 percent of troops wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan have survived.**

Larry Bailey II is an example. After tripping a rooftop bomb in Afghanistan last June, the 26-year-old Marine remembers flying into the air, then fellow troops attending to him.

"I pretty much knew that my legs were gone. My left hand, from what I remember I still had three fingers on it," although they didn't seem right, Bailey said.

"I looked a few times but then they told me to stop looking." Bailey, who is from Zion, Ill., north of Chicago, ended up a triple amputee and expects to get a hand transplant this summer.

He is still transitioning from active duty and is not yet a veteran. Just over half of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans eligible for VA care have used it so far.

Of those who have sought VA care:

More than 1,600 of them lost a limb; many others lost fingers or toes.

At least 156 are blind, and thousands of others have impaired vision.

More than 177,000 have hearing loss, and more than 350,000 report tinnitus – noise or ringing in the ears.

Thousands are disfigured, as many as 200 of them so badly that they may need face transplants. One-quarter of battlefield injuries requiring evacuation included wounds to the face or jaw, one study found.

"The numbers are pretty staggering," said Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston who has done four face transplants on non-military patients and expects to start doing them soon on veterans.

Others have invisible wounds. More than 400,000 of these new veterans have been treated by the VA for a mental health problem, most commonly, PTSD.

Tens of thousands of veterans suffered traumatic brain injury, or TBI – mostly mild concussions from bomb blasts – and doctors don't know what's in store for them long-term.

Cifu, of the VA, said that roughly 20 percent of active duty troops suffered concussions, but only one-third of them have symptoms lasting beyond a few months.

That's still a big number, and "it's very rare that someone has just a single concussion," said David Hovda, director of the UCLA Brain Injury Research Center. Suffering multiple concussions, or one soon after another, raises the risk of long-term problems. A brain injury also makes the brain more susceptible to PTSD, he said.

**On a more mundane level, many new veterans have back, shoulder and knee problems, aggravated by carrying heavy packs and wearing the body armor that helped keep them alive.**

**One recent study found that 19 percent required orthopedic surgery consultations and 4 percent needed surgery after returning from combat.**

**All of this adds up to more disability claims, which for years have been coming in faster than the government can handle them.**

**The average wait to get a new one processed grows longer each month and is now about eight months – time that a frustrated, injured veteran might spend with no income.**

**More than 560,000 veterans from all wars currently have claims that are backlogged – older than 125 days.**

The VA's benefits chief, Hickey, gave these reasons:

Sheer volume. Disability claims from all veterans soared from 888,000 in 2008 to 1.3 million in 2011. Last year's included more than 230,000 new claims from Vietnam veterans and their survivors because of a change in what conditions can be considered related to Agent Orange exposure. Those complex, 50-year-old cases took more than a third of available staff, she said.

High number of ailments per claim. When a veteran claims 11 to 14 problems, each one requires "due diligence" – a medical evaluation and proof that it is service-related, Hickey said.

**A new mandate to handle the oldest cases first. Because these tend to be the most complex, they have monopolized staff and pushed up average processing time on new claims, she said.**

**Outmoded systems. The VA is streamlining and going to electronic records, but for now, "We have 4.4 million case files sitting around 56 regional offices that we have to work with; that slows us down significantly," Hickey said.**

Barry Jesinoski, executive director of Disabled American Veterans, called Hickey's efforts "commendable," but said: "The VA has a long way to go" to meet veterans' needs.

"You just can't keep sending people into war five, six or seven times and expect that they're going to come home just fine," he said.

For taxpayers, the ordeal is just beginning. With any war, the cost of caring for veterans rises for several decades and peaks 30 to 40 years later, when diseases of aging are more common, said Harvard economist Linda Bilmes. She estimates the health care and disability costs of the recent wars at \$600 billion to \$900 billion.

"This is a huge number and there's no money set aside," she said.

"Unless we take steps now into some kind of fund that will grow over time, it's very plausible many people will feel we can't afford these benefits we overpromised."

How would that play to these veterans, who all volunteered and now expect the government to keep its end of the bargain?

**"The deal was, if you get wounded, we're going to supply this level of support," Bilmes said.**

Right now, “there’s a lot of sympathy and a lot of people want to help. But memories are short and times change.”

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## **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

I say that when troops cannot be counted on to follow orders because they see the futility and immorality of them THAT is the real key to ending a war.  
-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace

# I DON'T REMEMBER

From: Progressive Avenues.org  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Subject: "I Don't Remember" by Luke Hiken  
Date: May 28, 2012

5.28.12 By Luke Hiken

Luke Hiken is an attorney who has engaged in the practice of criminal, military, immigration, and appellate law.

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## I DON'T REMEMBER

- 1) Voting to wage war against every Muslim nation that is not a pawn of U.S. capital.
- 2) Voting to support the use of unmanned drones as murder weapons against civilian populations.
- 3) Voting to characterize corporations as "people" for purposes of buying elections, and destroying whatever vestiges of democracy that might have existed in the U.S.
- 4) Voting to bail out Wall Street gangsters who destroyed the U.S. economy. I know I did not vote to immunize these crooks from prosecution for their theft of the wages and earnings of the American people.
- 5) Voting to destroy our educational system by indenturing students with impossibly burdensome loans and creating annual tuitions that only the super rich can afford.
- 6) Voting to construct the largest prison system in the world, imprisoning African-American and Latino/Chicano prisoners at 5 times their number in the U.S. population.
- 7) Voting to deport more than ½ million non-immigrants from this country during Obama's term of office alone, in spite of the fact that nobody else will perform the services they provide to the American people. The cultural and social losses created by our endless detainments and deportations are as destructive as the economic considerations of our policies.
- 8) Voting to allow oil companies and their cohorts to reap unimaginable profits to the detriment of the U.S. people, while destroying the natural resources of the earth.
- 9) Voting to wage war on women's rights to abortion, birth control, and an equal wage for their work.
- 10) Voting to permit corporations to export our jobs overseas, while paying no taxes on their obscene profits earned by paying slave wages to poor people throughout the world.

11) Voting to immunize police departments and hired mercenaries for their ongoing repression and violence against poor people and minorities.

12) Voting to legalize torture and renditions as national policy and practice.

13) Voting to allow the Pentagon to decide who is a criminal and who is not, and to imprison anybody anywhere, without probable cause, according to their militaristic worldview.

14) Voting to demand "austerity" from poor people, while allowing the greediest monsters that have ever lived to rule this nation and to thrive economically.

15) Voting to allow the pharmaceutical and insurance industries to deprive the American people of affordable health care and, thereby impoverishing the poor and disabled.

16) Voting to allow Christian fanatics to demonize gay people, the poor, and the marginalized from the benefits of our society.

17) Voting to allow vulture banks to steal people's homes and profit from their newly created homelessness.

18) Voting to allow 1% of the population to control more than 40% of the wealth of the nation.

BUT, I will certainly remember these things when either the Democrats or the Republicans ask me to vote for them in November.

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## SPEAK OUT

[Thanks to Carolyn Birden, who sent this in.]

February 14, 2003 By Lawrence Ferlinghetti, SFgate.com

And a vast paranoia sweeps across the land  
And America turns the attack on its Twin Towers  
Into the beginning of the Third World War  
The war with the Third World

And the terrorists in Washington  
Are shipping out the young men  
To the killing fields again

And no one speaks

And they are rousting out  
All the ones with turbans  
And they are flushing out  
All the strange immigrants



And they are shipping all the young men  
To the killing fields again

And no one speaks

And when they come to round up  
All the great writers and poets and painters  
The National Endowment of the Arts of Complacency  
Will not speak

While all the young men  
Will be killing all the young men  
In the killing fields again

So now is the time for you to speak  
All you lovers of liberty  
All you lovers of the pursuit of happiness  
All you lovers and sleepers  
Deep in your private dream  
Now is the time for you to speak  
O silent majority  
Before they come for you!

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## **“I Have A Neighbor Who Insists On Working On The Sabbath” “Am I Morally Obligated To Kill Him Myself, Or Should I Ask The Police To Do It?”**

[Thanks to Ward Reilly, Veterans For Peace, for passing this one along.]

Thank you for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law. I have learned a great deal from you and understand why you would be for banning same sex marriage.

As you said “in the eyes of God marriage is based between a man a woman.” I try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can.

When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that Leviticus 18:22 clearly states it to be an abomination... End of debate.

I do need some advice from you, however, regarding some other elements of God's Laws and how to follow them.

1. Leviticus 25:44 states that I may possess slaves, both male and female, provided they are purchased from neighboring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans, but not Canadians. Can you clarify?

Why can't I own Canadians?

2. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in Exodus 21:7. In this day and age, what do you think would be a fair price for her?

3. I know that I am allowed no contact with a woman while she is in her period of menstrual uncleanness - Lev.15: 19-24. The problem is how do I tell? I have tried asking, but most women take offense.

4. When I burn a bull on the altar as a sacrifice, I know it creates a pleasing odor for the Lord - Lev.1:9. The problem is, my neighbors. They claim the odor is not pleasing to them. Should I smite them?

5. I have a neighbor who insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2. clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or should I ask the police to do it?

6. A friend of mine feels that even though eating shellfish is an abomination - Lev. 11:10, it is a lesser abomination than homosexuality. I don't agree. Can you settle this? Are there 'degrees' of abomination?

7. Lev.21:20 states that I may not approach the altar of God if I have a defect in my sight. I have to admit that I wear reading glasses. Does my vision have to be 20/20, or is there some wiggle-room here?

8. Most of my male friends get their hair trimmed, including the hair around their temples, even though this is expressly forbidden by Lev.19:27. How should they die?

9. I know from Lev. 11:6-8 that touching the skin of a dead pig makes me unclean, but may I still play football if I wear gloves?

10. My uncle has a farm. He violates Lev.19:19 by planting two different crops in the same field, as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton/polyester blend). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot.

Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting the whole town together to stone them? Lev.24:10-16. Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair, like we do with people who sleep with their in-laws? (Lev. 20:14)

11. And one of my real concerns is that gay lobsterman who wears clothes made of two or more fabrics and hauls lobsters on the Sabbath....Four abominations in one day....Wow.....

I know you have studied these things extensively and thus enjoy considerable expertise in such matters, so I am confident you can help.

Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

### **May 30, 1937: The Memorial Day Massacre: Chicago Police Cowards Murder Striking Steel Workers: “All But Four Of The Fifty-Four Gunshot Wounds Were To The Side Or Back And One Victim Was Shot Four Times”**



Carl Bunin Peace History May 28-June 3

1000 striking steel workers (and members of their families), on their way to picket at the Republic Steel plant in south Chicago where they were organizing a union, were stopped by the Chicago Police.

In what became known as the “Memorial Day Massacre,” police shot and killed 10 fleeing workers, wounded 30 more, and beat 55 so badly they required hospitalization.

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## The Memorial Day Massacre of 1937

uhigh.ilstu.edu [Excerpts]

The 1930s was a period of economic unrest for the United States. Following the prosperous “roaring twenties”, the Great Depression hit the general population hard. Many employees were fired and those who were not lost much of their former salary.

Then, in 1933, as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal, the National Recovery Act was passed. One of its most important concessions to laborers was the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

The number of strikes nationwide grew to the highest amount in American history.

When the National Recovery Act was declared unconstitutional in 1935, Congress was still sympathetic to the young labor unions that had been formed under it. They soon passed the Wagner Act, or National Labor Relations Act, to reassert the rights of the laborers.

By the 1930s the steel industry had survived much adversity, yet there were still changes to come.

The Committee for Industrial Organization, (CIO), was founded in November 1935.

Encouraged by the CIO, the steel industry became one of the first to begin organizing under the Wagner Act. Accordingly, on June 17, 1936 The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, (SWOC), was created.

The industry itself did not accept this movement.

**Many companies began to stock up on tear-gas, firearms, and ammunition as well as, refining their espionage and police systems.**

After a long struggle for further organization and acceptance within the steel industry, the United States Steel Corporation, (the leading producer of steel, dubbed “Big Steel”), signed an agreement recognizing SWOC. This contract allowed for five dollar a day wages in addition to a 40-hour week with time-and-a-half for overtime. By May 1937, there were 110 firms under contract.

Still, some companies refused to sign. In response, SWOC called its first strike involving 25,000 workmen against Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation. Thirty-six hours later, the corporation agreed to a Labor Board election. The union won 17,028 to 7,207.

Despite this enormous victory, a combination of “Little Steel” companies including Bethlehem Steel, Republic Steel, Inland Steel, and Youngstown Sheet & Tube, refused to sign.

Their leaders had strong anti-union attitudes and felt that the U.S. steel decision to “surrender” to SWOC was a betrayal. Tom Girdler, chairman of the Board of Republic Steel, was one particularly influential anti-union spokesperson.

**The company anticipated a strike so they placed a stockpile of industrial munitions at various plants of Republic Steel.**

Then, on May 26, 1937, SWOC decided to strike three of the “Little Steel” companies: Republic, Youngstown Sheet & Tube, and Inland. Most of the plants ceased production during the strike; they were willing to wait it out because the steelworkers’ union strike benefits were meager.

Picket lines were set up at these plants to prevent any attempt to reopen them.

However, Republic Steel remained defiant and refused to close all of its plants. They even housed non-union workers in the plant, so they could continue working without the hassle of picket lines outside.

One of these plants was the Republic Steel South Chicago Plant.

One half of this plant’s 2,200 employees had joined the strike. When the walkout began on May 26, the police interfered in an attempt to prevent other non-committed workers from joining the cause.

The SWOC organizers attempted to form a picket line in front of the gate.

Police Captain James Mooney, despite the fact that the picketers were peaceful, broke up the line and arrested 23 people who refused to move. The rest were forced to 117th Street, 2 blocks from the plant.

Because of this action, the police no longer played an impartial role in the strike. Instead, they were clearly supportive of Republic.

Strike headquarters were established in Sam’s Place, at 113th and Green Bay Avenue.

Chicago mayor, Edward J. Kelley, announced in the Chicago Tribune that peaceful picketing would be permitted.

In response to this article, the strikers attempted to establish pickets, but were turned away.

On the next day, at around 5:00 PM, another attempt was made to picket. The marchers marched from Sam’s Place to 117th Street. There were a few policemen present, but the marchers continued west towards Burley Avenue.

Once the marchers reached Buffalo the police line had strengthened a great deal. The workers continued and fighting broke out. The police used clubs to fight the workers back. A few had drawn revolvers without orders and discharged them in the air. No one was killed, but there were several bloody heads.

May 28 was a quiet day, but the marchers were upset with police actions.

Nick Fontecchio, a Union leader, called for a mass meeting at Sam's Place the next day, Memorial Day Sunday. Captain Mooney received an anonymous report that on Sunday an attempt would be made to invade the plant to drive out the remaining non-union workers. He did not check the rumor, but proceeded to station 264 policemen on duty at the Republic Steel Mill.

**By 3:00 p.m. on May 30, 1937, a crowd of around 1500 strikers had gathered. It was a sunny, warm day with the temperature at around 88 degrees.**

**Many of the union members and supporters had brought along their wives and children to join in this almost festive gathering organized by SWOC leader Joe Hunt. Several speakers addressed various labor issues most importantly, the right to organize and picket.**

Some resolutions were approved to send to government officials concerning police conduct at the Republic plant. It was then moved to march to the plant and establish a mass picket.

When this was approved about 1000 people went into formation behind two American flags. Instead of marching south down Green Bay Avenue, they turned onto a dirt road across a open prairie chanting, "CIO, CIO!"

When the police, saw this they moved their position from 117th street between Green Bay and Burley Avenue to across the dirt road, just north of 117th on Burley.

The 200 police were in double file and watched the approaching marchers with their clubs drawn. The Republic mill had armed some of the officers with non-regulation clubs and tear gas.

The marchers met the police line and demanded that their rights to picket be recognized by the police letting them through.

They were "commanded in the name of the law to disperse", but the picketers persisted. This continued for several minutes. While marchers armed themselves with rocks and branches, foul language was passed between the two parties. Tension was mounting.

Recording all of this was cameraman Orland Lippert. Unfortunately, he was changing lenses at the start of the actual violence. This has caused some dispute as to which side initiated the fighting. The following account, determined at the hearings under Senator Robert LaFollette, is generally accepted.

Police were trying to prevent marchers from outflanking their line.

As some strikers began to retreat a stick flew from the back of the line towards the police. Instantaneously, tear gas bombs were thrown at the marchers.

The next few moments were total chaos.

More objects were thrown at the police by the marchers.

**Acting without orders, several policemen in the front drew their revolvers and fired point blank at the marcher's ranks, many of whom were beginning to retreat.**

The actual shooting only continued for fifteen seconds, but the violence did not end there.

Using their clubs, the police beat anyone in their paths, including women and children.

During this time, arrests were also made. Patrol wagons were filled to twice the mandated capacity of 8 prisoners. The injured were not even taken directly to local hospitals.

**As a result of this atrocity, four marchers were fatally shot and six were mortally wounded. Thirty others suffered gunshot wounds.**

Thirty-eight were hospitalized due to injuries from the beatings and still thirty more required other medical treatment.

**It is noteworthy that all but four of the fifty-four gunshot wounds were to the side or back and one victim was shot four times.**

There were minor police casualties with thirty-five reported injuries, (no gunshot wounds), but only three needed overnight hospital care.

After the riot, sympathetic strikers fervently protested the police brutality. On the other hand, the press, especially the Chicago Tribune, portrayed the marchers as communist conspirators who had essentially attacked the police and attempted to throw out non-union workers.

The LaFollette Committee investigated this tragedy and came to four conclusions.

First, the police had no right to limit the number of peaceful pickets and that the march was not aimed at freeing remaining plant workers.

Second, the police should have halted the march with limited violence, if this action is even justifiable.

Third, the force used by the police was excessive and the marcher's only methods of provocation were abusive language and throwing of isolated missiles.

Fourth, the police could have avoided the bloodshed.

**In addition to those killed in the Memorial Day Massacre, 6 other union members lost their lives in pickets of the "Little Steel" strike of 1937.**

**In fact, the "Little Steel" strike is surpassed by few in the areas of viciousness, press distortion, suppression of rights, and police brutality.**

The strike was called off when the many hardships suffered began to demoralize union workers. However, in August of 1941, under legal pressure, the Little Steel companies



agreed to cease the committing of unfair labor practices. A year later, they signed their first contract recognizing the new union, United Steelworkers of America.

**The massacre has been referred to as the “blackest day of modern labor history”, but the sacrifices of these workers were not in vain. Little Steel had only delayed the inevitable march of unionism in America.**

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## **Ignorant Texas Savages Put High School Honor Student In Jail For Working Two Jobs To Support Her Family, But Missing School.**

05/27/2012 By Timothy Stenovec, The Huffington Post

**Diane Tran, a 17-year-old honor student in Texas, was forced to spend the night in jail last week after missing too many classes, KHOU-11’s Sherry Williams reports.**

**The Willis High School junior, who helps support two siblings, has both a full time and part-time job. She said that she’s often too tired to go to school.**

**“She goes from job to job from school,” Devin Hill, one of Tran’s classmates, told KHOU-11. “She stays up until 7:00 in the morning doing her homework.”**

In an interview with KHOU-11, Tran said she takes AP Spanish, college level algebra and dual credit English and history courses.

**Her parents divorced and no longer live near her, so she lives with the family that owns the wedding venue where she works on weekends.**

According to Texas law, if a student has ten or more unexcused absences within a six-month period, the school district may refer the student to a juvenile court. “In such cases, resolution of the issue is entirely in the hands of the court,” reads a statement on the website of the Willis Independent School District.

After being warned by a judge in April about missing too much school, Tran was arrested in court on Wednesday and required to spend the night in jail, according to the above video from KHOU-11.

**She has also been fined \$100.**

Tran’s case has spread online, with dozens of news outlets across the country picking up her story. HelpDianeTran.com, a site set up by the Louisiana Children’s Education Alliance in partnership with Anedot and Gatorworks, has raised over \$28,000.

**A petition at Change.org that calls for the judge to revoke the teen’s fine and sentencing was approaching 26,000 signatures on Monday afternoon.**

“This remarkable young woman doesn’t deserve jail,” wrote a Change.org commenter going by Letitia Gutierrez. “She deserves a medal.”

### **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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

**“All Good Democrats Are Busily Hating On Bain Capital Right Now”  
“What They’re Forgetting Is How Many Bain-Affiliated Political Contributions Have Gone To Democrats”**

May 26, 2012 by Doug Henwood, LBO News

All good Democrats are busily hating on Bain Capital right now. What they’re forgetting is how many Bain-affiliated political contributions have gone to Democrats.

Plug the words “Bain Capital” into an OpenSecrets.org search and you learn that while Bain people have lovingly contributed to their former CEO’s presidential campaign, almost 3/4 of their contributions to other candidates, 72% to be precise, have gone to Democrats.

That’s a higher percentage to Dems than the AFL-CIO!

And among the top recipients are Dem headliners like Al Franken, Claire McCaskill, John Kerry, Mark Udall, Nancy Pelosi, and Sherrod Brown. They were also major contributors to the Democratic National Committee and the national Democratic party.

There are very few Republican candidates on the OpenSecrets list, and no major gifts to the GOP itself.

So Cory Booker's defense of private equity (PE) against attacks by the Obama campaign has a very materialist explanation: PE titans like Bain have been funding Dems for ages—including Booker himself (e.g., "Cory Booker's Bain Capital money").

It was just a few years ago that hedge fund (HF) hotshot Paul Tudor Jones held a 500-guest fundraiser for Obama, back when "the whole of Greenwich" (an epicenter of the industry) was behind him ("Another top hedge fund chief backs Obama"). Then he hurt their feelings with one intemperate use of the term "fatcats."

But it's not like Obama is about to expropriate the PE and HF types.

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## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**



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**“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.”**

**Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

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