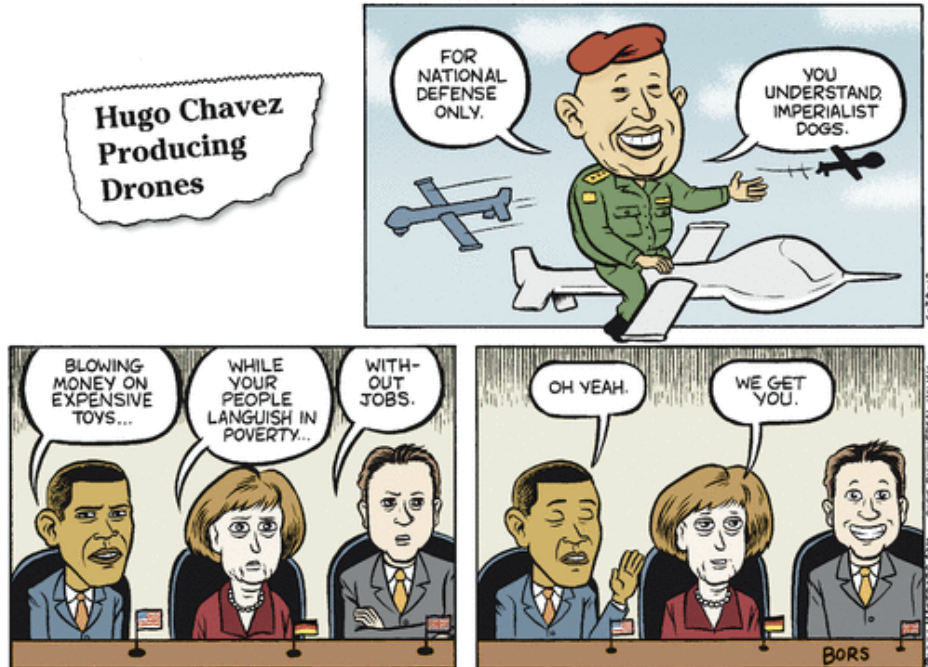


Military Resistance 10G2



“The Threat Of Improvised Explosive Devices Is Ever-Present”

“No Road Here Is Safe”

“I Don’t Know What’s Worse: Getting Shot At Or Playing Hide-And-Seek With Them”

Jun 25, 2012 By Carmen Gentile - USA Today [Excerpts]

JAG CHENA, Afghanistan — On a dusty, narrow lane in this remote village, U.S. soldiers call over a couple of young men, who appear for a moment to consider complying, then flee into a gated compound.

“I don’t know what’s worse: getting shot at or playing hide-and-seek with them,” said Army Sgt. 1st Class Jonathon Wells, a veteran of three tours in Khost province.

Here, low-lying mountains covered in scrub vegetation give sanctuary to entrenched militant groups like the Taliban and Haqqani network.

Wells and his men from the 4th Brigade Combat Team of the 25th Infantry Division are here to tamp down the persistent militant presence in an area seven miles from the Pakistan border. They are also tasked with training Afghan forces.

In the village of Jag Chena, a small collection of seemingly ancient mud-brick homes, interlaced with winding footpaths and surrounded by farmers’ fields, American soldiers seek out adult males for registry in a high-tech biometric database that digitally scans fingerprints and irises. The data are cross-referenced with that of known escapees or previous suspects.

It’s tedious work for the troops, who during a recent mission scanned more than 50 men in Jag Chena, an area informants tell them is rife with militants and bomb-makers.

“Some of the guys get frustrated” with the grind of gathering biometric data, Wells said. “But I tell them, ‘We might be on the lowest rung, but you need that rung to get off the ground.’” **[Or break your neck.]**

There are reports of teenage boys being recruited by militants for attacks on U.S. and Afghan troops, U.S. troops say. Recently, soldiers found a 13-year-old boy carrying a pistol and two grenades, they said.

The threat of improvised explosive devices is ever-present. More than 20 have been uncovered since the beginning of the year.

Seven heavily armored vehicles have been damaged by IEDs.

Last month, two of the company’s soldiers were killed in a blast that sheered the front off the 35,000-pound vehicle and sent its engine block flying.

“No road here is safe,” said Lt. Connor Flaherty. “We get a tip on a possible IED just about every day.”

On Wednesday, a bomber attacked a checkpoint in Khost, killing several people, including three U.S. soldiers. Earlier this month at nearby Forward Operating Base Salerno, a van full of explosives was detonated against one of its walls.

Maj. Aziz, who like many here goes by one name, said his border patrol is ready to take control once the Americans leave.

Army Capt. Jibriel Means, the commanding officer at Bowri Tanah, said the patrol still needs to learn a few things, such as the importance of maintaining a supply line for food, fuel and ammunition in a remote region. [!]

“They say, ‘We need this and we need that,’ but we tell them they need to do it themselves,” Means said. “We’re still teaching them the process of doing things constantly and consistently.”

ACTION REPORTS

“One Of The Most Interesting I’ve Ever Done Since The Six Were Eager For The Attention Given Them” [Outreach To New York National Guard]

From: Alan S
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: Outreach to New York National Guard
Date: Jun 29, 2012

Commuter Terminal (6/26/12)

Today a RR station yielded six troop contacts in a space of no more than 10 minutes, which made it one of the most interesting I’ve ever done since the six were eager for the attention given them.

Often after introducing myself troops can turn away in indifference. But not today. Of the six, five were National Guard and one an Air Force National Guard (they sometimes patrols with Army NG troops).

Five handouts (National Guard newsletter from 6/8 outreach, GI Rights pamphlets and Military Resistance/IVAW intro card) [see below], 2 Military Resistance newsletters and 5 DVDs of “Sir! No Sir!” were distributed.

One soldier, having received similar material before commenting on the movie (after a moment’s thought) said: “interesting, another point of view.”

His partner seemed anxious to see the film, being quite taken by the conversation going on.

He seemed delighted for the support and interest as well.

Another soldier, when told about the resistance in Vietnam depicted in the DVD said, “yeah, but they sent them anyway.” “Sure, I said handing over a DVD, but they acted differently when they got there. Here’s the proof.”

Another Commuter Terminal (6/27/12)

Encouraged by the previous day's experience promoted another outreach elsewhere.

The first soldier turned me down flat and said hopefully I'll go back soon when asked if he was deploying before long,

Two more troops had seen me before (yesterday!) but were extremely friendly and promised to report back to me on what I'd given them.

A National Guard handout (described above) was given a soldier who knew me but accepted the latest info.

Another Air Force sergeant took the complete handout and a DVD. In reference to my comment about not wanting to see him chewed up because of some politicians he said "I hear you."

Later, two other troops included a sergeant who also knew me and he said he found the previous material I gave him interesting and took the new National Guard newsletter. His partner took a DVD and would read what his patrol mate had accepted. He also took a card.

Will most likely lay off a few weeks before returning to these two terminals.

Military Resistance

Traveling Soldier
Newsletter



www.traveling-
soldier.org

(888) 711-2550
 contact@militaryproject.org
 Box 126, 2576 Broadway New York, NY 10025

SUPPORTING GI RESISTANCE

[Cards designed by Richie M, Military Resistance Organization]

MORE:

ACTION REPORTS WANTED: FROM YOU!

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to Military Resistance for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how. If there were favorable responses, say so.

If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out. Reporting what went wrong and/or got screwed up is especially important, so that others may learn from you what to expect, and how to avoid similar problems if possible.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

NOTE WELL:

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Identifying information – locations, personnel – will be omitted from the reports.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the wars.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs identifying information be published in reporting on the action.

MORE:

Military Resistance Mission Statement:

1. The mission of Military Resistance is to bring together in one organization members of the armed forces and civilians in order to give aid and comfort to members of the armed forces who are organizing to end the war of empire in Afghanistan. The long term objective is to assist in eliminating all wars of empire by eliminating all empires.

2. Military Resistance does not advocate individual disobedience to orders or desertion from the armed forces. The most effective resistance is organized by members of the armed forces working together.

However, Military Resistance respects and will assist in the defense of troops who see individual desertion or refusal of orders as the only course of action open to them for reasons of conscience.

3. Military Resistance stands for the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and other occupation troops from Afghanistan.

Occupied nations have the right to independence and the right to resist Imperial invasion and occupation by force of arms.

4. Efforts to increase democratic rights in every society, organization, movement, and within the armed forces itself will receive encouragement and support.

Members of the armed forces, whether those of the United States or any other nation, have the right and duty to act against dictatorships commanding their services, and to assist civilian movements against dictatorship.

This applies whether a political dictatorship is imposed by force of arms or a political dictatorship is imposed by those in command of the resources of society using their wealth to purchase the political leadership.

5. Military Resistance uses organizational democracy.

This means control of the organization by the membership, through elected delegates to any coordinating bodies that may be formed, whether at local, regional, or national levels.

Any member may run for any job in the organization. All persons elected are subject to immediate recall, by majority vote of the membership.

Coordinating bodies report their actions, decisions and votes to the membership who elected them, and may be overruled by a majority of the membership.

6. It is not necessary for Military Resistance to be in political agreement with other organizations in order to work together towards specific common objectives.

It is productive for organizations working together on common projects to discuss differences about the best way forward for the movement.

Debate is necessary to arrive at the best course of action.

Membership Requirements:

7. It is a condition of membership that each member prioritize and participate in organized action to reach out to active duty armed forces, Reserve and/or National Guard units.

8. Military Resistance or individual members may choose to support candidates for elective office who are for immediate withdrawal from Afghanistan, but do not support a candidate opposed to immediate, unconditional withdrawal.

9. Members may not be active duty or drilling reserve commissioned officers, or employed in any capacity by any police or intelligence agency, local, state, or national.

10. I understand and am in agreement with the above statement. I pledge to defend my brothers and sisters, and the democratic rights of the citizens of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

----- (Signed)

(Date)

----- (Application taken by)

Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550

MORE

You Can Take Action That Makes A Difference: Join The Military Resistance Organization: MILITARY RESISTANCE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name (please print): _____

Armed Forces? (Branch) _____

Veteran? Years: _____

Union: _____

Occupation: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone (Landline): _____

Phone (Cell): _____

\$ dues paid _____
(See next: Calendar year basis.)

Armed Forces Members	@	Dues waived
Civilians	@	\$25
Students/Unemployed	@	\$10
Civilian/Military Prisoners	@	Dues Waived

Comments:

NOTE: Civilian applicants will be interviewed, in person if possible, or by phone.

**Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550**

MORE

“People Need Not Be Helpless Before The Power Of Illegitimate Authority”

**MILITARY RESISTANCE:
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
Contact@militaryproject.org**

[Based on a statement by David Cortright, Vietnam Veteran and armed forces resistance organizer.]

In the final analysis the stationing of American forces abroad serves not the national interest but the class interest of the corporate and political elite.

The maintenance of a massive, interventionist-oriented military establishment is based on the need to protect multinational investment and preserve regimes friendly to American capital.

Imperialism is at the heart of the national-security system and is the force fundamentally responsible for the counterrevolutionary, repressive aims of U.S. policy.

Only if we confront this reality and challenge it throughout society and within the ranks can we restore democratic control of the military. Of course nothing can be accomplished without citizen involvement and active political struggle.

During the Vietnam era enlisted servicemen created massive pressures for change, despite severe repression, and significantly altered the course of the war and subsequent military policy.

To sustain and strengthen this challenge we must continue to build political opposition to interventionism and support those within the armed services, including national guard and reserves, who defy the goals and program of Empire.

The central lesson of the GI movement is that people need not be helpless before the power of illegitimate authority, that by getting together and acting upon their convictions people can change society and, in effect, make their own history.

Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550

“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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Soldier From Lawrenceville, Ill., Killed In Afghanistan



Spc. Trevor Pinnick

June 15, 2012 By Len Wells, Courierpress.com

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ill. —

After listening to an Army recruiter's presentation at Lawrenceville (Ill.) High School, Trevor Pinnick came home and announced to his family that he was joining the Army.

On Monday, six months into a deployment to Afghanistan, Spec. Pinnick was killed in action.

"He stepped on a land mine," said his mother Nancy Pinnick of Mount Carmel, Ill. "We talked every day on Facebook. The day before he was killed, Trevor said, 'I love you, Mom. I'm heading out on a mission. I'll talk to you tomorrow.'"

Pinnick spent most of his youth in the Metro-East community of Collinsville, Ill., but moved with his mother to Lawrenceville a few years ago, graduating in May 2010 from Lawrenceville High School. He joined the Army that August, completing basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. In November, Pinnick was assigned to the Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Fort Lewis, Wash., deploying to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom on Dec. 11.

"One of his sergeants told me they nicknamed him Picnic," his mother said. "He got the nickname because he was always saying that every day was a picnic."

Pinnick is survived by his wife, Martha and a daughter, Melody Renee Pinnick, who will be 2 years old July 9.

Also surviving are twin sisters, Kayla and Bethany Pinnick, a brother, Thomas Pinnick, his mother, Nancy Pinnick of Mount Carmel, Ill., and his father, Thomas Pinnick of Alton, Ill.

"He was mean," his sister Kayla Pinnick said. "He was always giving us a hard time, but he was a truly awesome brother." Growing up, Kayla said that just about every day Trevor staged wrestling matches in the family's living room. "He was always saying that everything in the world was our fault. He once said we caused the Great Depression — that we were the ones who put the cheese in the moon. He was so funny like that."

Pinnick's body was returned to Dover Air Force Base at Dover, Del., Thursday night. Family members were there, but his body will not be released for funeral services back in Illinois until an autopsy has been completed, family members said.

"I would have to say he was a bad-good boy," his mother said. "He was always a joker. He was so friendly that everybody liked him wherever he was."

At the time of his death, Pinnick was serving with the 562nd Engineering Co., Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division headquartered at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Fort Lewis, Wash.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

MILITARY NEWS

**Drugged-Up By Army, Soldier
Joshua Eisenhauer, Believing
He Was Under Attack By
Insurgents, Opened Fire From
In His North Carolina
Apartment:
His Lawyer Wants The Military To
Take Over The Case So The
Veteran Can Get The Treatment He
Needs;**

**“He’s Wondering Why The Army
Abandoned Him”**

**“Erickson Now Believes The Army Has
Twice Failed Her Son — By Not Treating
His PTSD Before The Shooting, And By
Failing To Treat Him Now”**



Staff Sgt. Joshua Eisenhauer, 30, with his mother, Dawn Erickson. He faces 17 counts of attempted murder of firefighters and police officers in a shooting Jan. 13 in Fayetteville, N.C. (Courtesy of Dawn Erickson / June 24, 2012)

June 24, 2012 By David Zucchino, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts\

RALEIGH, N.C. —

There were shouts and footsteps in the darkness, then a banging on the door.

Staff Sgt. Joshua Eisenhauer rose from his mattress on the floor of his apartment in Fayetteville, N.C. He reached under the bedding for his Glock 19 pistol. He fired into the night.

The noises had come from firefighters responding to a minor fire Jan. 13.

But to Eisenhauer, a veteran of two Afghanistan combat tours diagnosed with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, the firefighters were insurgents storming his position.

Eisenhauer's ensuing gun battle with police lasted nearly two hours.

He was shot in the face, chest and thigh, finally passing out from blood loss.

When he was first able to speak in a hospital two days later, according to his lawyer, he asked a nurse: "Who's got the roof?"

Now Eisenhauer is inmate No. 1304704 in Raleigh's Central Prison. He faces 17 counts of attempted murder of firefighters and police officers, nine counts of assault with a deadly weapon, and other charges.

No firefighters or police were hit.

In an unusual legal move, the soldier's lawyer, Mark L. Waple, and mother have asked the military to take over prosecution of his case.

They say Central Prison cannot provide the treatment the Pentagon mandates for soldiers diagnosed with PTSD — only the military can.

A soldier's request for military prosecution while in civilian custody is rare but not unprecedented, said Victor M. Hansen, a professor at New England Law in Boston, and a former military lawyer. The process is complicated, he said, and both civilian and military authorities often resist.

Thousands of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are incarcerated in civilian jails and prisons, many without access to the type of PTSD treatments mandated by the military.

The most recent Bureau of Justice Statistics survey put the number of incarcerated veterans at 140,000 in 2004.

Though the survey said incarceration rates for male veterans were lower than for nonveterans, the numbers are likely to increase as more service members return from overseas combat.

A Ft. Bragg spokesman, Col. Kevin Arata, said base legal authorities had carefully considered Waple's request but would not assume jurisdiction "because Cumberland County is actively pursuing this case."

Waple insists that PTSD therapy is Eisenhower's best hope. The Army is more experienced at treating combat trauma than are therapists, he said.

Further, Waple said, the soldier's PTSD "caused or contributed to the events" in January. The military is legally obligated to treat active-duty soldiers — even those charged with serious crimes, he said.

"The Army espouses a philosophy of 'no soldier left behind,'" Waple said. "For the Army not to take jurisdiction over this case violates that philosophy. That's the bottom line."

Waple said he believed the military would take the case if he could persuade civilian prosecutors to release jurisdiction.

The shooting came while Eisenhower was assigned to Ft. Bragg's Warrior Transition Battalion, which provides long-term care to wounded or injured soldiers.

He entered the unit last August, but his mother, Dawn Erickson, said he received virtually no PTSD treatment beyond a weekly group therapy session — even though he was diagnosed as "high risk" to himself or others.

Instead, she said, Eisenhauer, 30, was overloaded with powerful drugs — and scheduled to begin a 12-week intensive PTSD therapy program away from Ft. Bragg this spring.

[Dawn Eisenhauer obviously has not been informed that extensive research finds the only effective treatment for PTS is group work. That was exactly the right treatment.

[But the same research found that drugs are exactly the wrong treatment, either useless or making PTS worse. So Dawn Eisenhauer has that problem perfectly targeted, especially since the Army loves to prescribe drugs that have, as a side effect, “suicidal and/or homicidal ideation.” T]

Waple said two private psychiatrists who had examined Eisenhauer and his medical records said the soldier believed he was under insurgent attack the night of the shooting.

Eisenhauer “was in very bad shape and inclined for reality becoming discontinuous, with the flashback of insurgents rushing in, this time towards his door,” one psychiatrist wrote to Waple.

Further, the soldier was deeply troubled by the loss of close friends to insurgents. After one truck bomb attack, his mother said, he helped collect body parts of buddies.

Waple said he found a journal entry in Eisenhauer’s apartment that read: “And so another day around people I don’t know with loud bangs ... that bring me to my flashbacks.”

In another entry, Eisenhauer wrote that he was hyperventilating and crying almost daily: “I feel withdrawn like a caged lion.”

Veterans’ groups and service members have complained of inadequate PTSD treatment as the number of cases from Iraq and Afghanistan — more than 210,000 treated by Veterans Affairs alone — has overwhelmed the agency.

Wait times for treatment are so long that the VA recently posted job notices for nearly 2,000 more mental health clinicians and support staff.

Earlier this year, soldiers and their spouses complained at a public meeting with Ft. Bragg authorities about poor medical treatment at the Warrior Transition Battalion.

In February, the Ft. Bragg commander, Lt. Gen. Frank Helmick, ordered the base inspector general to conduct a “thorough inspection” of the unit.

The inspector general reported that his investigation found no improper prescribing of drugs. [Another bullshit cover-up by a chicken-brain in command. Prescribing of drugs for PTS is “improper” prima facie. T]

Central Prison has done a good job of treating Eisenhower's physical wounds, Waple said. The attorney had negotiated with prosecutors to transfer Eisenhower there from the smaller Cumberland County jail in Fayetteville.

But the prison psychiatrist, in a letter to the lawyer, said Central could not provide adequate PTSD treatment — and predicted that Eisenhower's condition would deteriorate in prison.

Also untreated is a traumatic brain injury from explosions in Afghanistan.

Prosecutors would not have to drop charges for the military to take the case, said Hansen, the law professor. But because jurisdictional issues are normally ironed out beforehand, pending civilian charges would pose "a logistical nightmare."

And even if Eisenhower is transferred to the military system, Hansen said, there is no guarantee he would receive PTSD treatment.

"In my experience, the military doesn't fall all over itself to provide treatment to a criminal defendant," Hansen said.

Erickson, who works for a human rights group in Afghanistan, visited her son earlier this month before flying back to Kabul. Even in prison, far from the war, he still has flashbacks and nightmares.

"He's wondering why the Army abandoned him," she said.

Erickson now believes the Army has twice failed her son — by not treating his PTSD before the shooting, and by failing to treat him now.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



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

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

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

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

<p>Hope for change doesn’t cut it when you’re still losing buddies. -- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War</p>

1915: “If Perish We Must, Let Us Perish In The Struggle For Our Own Cause”

August 1915, V.I. Ulyanov, Pravda, No. 18 (3850) [The writer used the pen name “Lenin” to keep the government from terrorizing his family. Excerpts]

The war fills the pockets of the capitalists to whom an ocean of gold is flowing from the treasuries of the great powers.

The war is provoking an unreasoning bitterness against the enemy, and the bourgeoisie does its best to direct the dissatisfaction of the people into those channels, to divert their attention from the main enemy, the government and the ruling classes of their own country.

The war, however, carrying with it untold miseries and horrors for the toiling masses, enlightens and steels the best representatives of the working class.

If perish we must, let us perish in the struggle for our own cause, for the cause of the workers, for the Socialist revolution and not for the interests of the capitalists, landowners, and Tsars - this is what every class-conscious worker sees and feels.

Revolutionary Social-Democratic work may be difficult at present, but it is possible.

It progresses in the whole world, and in this alone lies salvation.

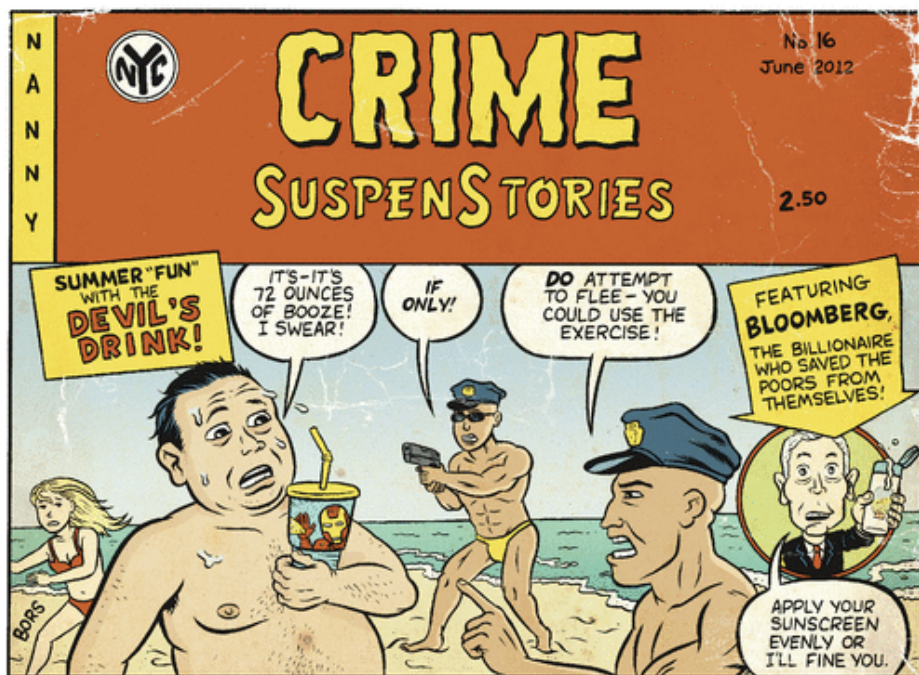
DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?

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



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.

CLASS WAR REPORTS



Sudan Uprising Against The Dictator Bashir Spreads With “Day Of Elbow Licking”

“Large Protests In Khartoum And Its Twin City Omdurman As Well As At Least A Dozen Cities Outside The Capital”

“In A Suburb In Medani, Sudan’s Second-Largest City, Police Refused To Attack Protesters”

“Residents Kicked Police Out Of Nearby Areas, Declaring Police-Free Zones”



“Chants of “down with the regime” ring loudly throughout the demonstrations.” Sudanese people take to the streets in a bid to bring down the Bashir regime. Photo from Al Jazeera.

July 1, 2012 By Meera Zoll, Green Left Weekly

Sudanese President Omer Al Bashir has described anti-government protesters as foreign agents, agitators and “bubbles”.

Yet unrest may boil over as it continues to spread and protesters vow they won't stop until the regime falls.

The movement against the government was boosted on June 29 with large protests in Khartoum and its twin city Omdurman as well as at least a dozen cities outside the capital for the “day of elbow-licking”.

This was a response to National Congress Party (NCP) vice-chairperson Nafie Ali Nafie's claim that overthrowing the regime was as impossible as licking one's own elbow.

Sermons during Friday prayers at many mosques condemned the regime.

As crowds gathered at Wad Nubawi mosque in Omdurman, one tweeter said: “things are going crazy. The prayers didn't even start! Ppl r chanting their lungs out”.

The June 29 Sudan Tribune said “police forces supported by plain clothed security agents fired heavy teargas and rubber bullets on the protesters inside the mosque”.

Protests continued for many hours, and residents kicked police out of nearby areas, declaring police-free zones.

In a suburb in Medani, Sudan's second-largest city, police refused to attack protesters, forcing the regime to send its security agents to repress the demonstration. In many cities, protests continued into the night.

Throughout the day, the government blocked Facebook pages and student group websites, as well as the online versions of newspapers. Mobile phone coverage was also reportedly shut down for a period.

The demonstrations began almost two weeks earlier at the University of Khartoum on June 16, spreading to other parts of the capital, various university campuses, and cities and towns across Sudan, including Al Qadarif and Kassalla in the east, Al Obeid in North Kordofan, Kosti in White Nile State, Al Fashir in the west, Medani, and Atbara, an historic centre of working-class struggle.

As the days passed, more sections of the population added their support to the struggle, including lawyers and doctors.

Sudanese journalists and bloggers have been arrested and harassed, and several newspapers, including the Sudanese Communist Party's paper Al Midan, have been suspended. Foreign journalists have also been arrested and Bloomberg journalist Salma Al Wardany was deported after reporting on the protests.

The opposition coalition, the National Consensus Forces (NCF), has supported the demonstrations and issued a united call to overthrow the regime.

Police attacked a protest with tear gas outside the Khartoum headquarters of the Popular Congress Party on June 25, after a meeting of the NCF.

Youth groups trying to establish a new alliance met in Khartoum on June 18, but the meeting was swiftly shut down by security forces and all participants arrested.

The Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), a coalition of armed groups resisting Khartoum's wars on the people of the west and south of Sudan, has welcomed the protests. It issued a June 24 statement declaring it would implement an immediate ceasefire following Bashir's ousting.

The protests were sparked by the NCP government's plan to lift fuel and food subsidies.

But anger has been steadily building among Sudanese people throughout the 23 years of Bashir's rule, and chants of "down with the regime" ring loudly throughout the demonstrations.

Not only has NCP rule been characterised by brutal repression, it has also destroyed Sudan's economy through widespread corruption, the devotion of much of the country's income to the armed forces' genocidal military campaigns and the total neglect of key economic areas including agriculture.

This has led to rising poverty for Sudan's people, which has worsened since the secession of South Sudan and Khartoum's consequent loss of substantial oil income.

The growing suffering among the population meant this new round of student protests quickly won more general support.

Bashir has dismissed the rallies and insisted “He remains widely popular.”

But the regime’s fear is revealed by the violent repression it has unleashed against the protesters, including the use of live ammunition and the torture of detained activists. A protester from Omdurman, Amir Bayoumi, died in hospital on June 26 after being tear gassed.

There are reports of increasing divisions within the NCP and a jostling for positions.

However the people’s anger is directed at the regime as a whole, rather than focused on the president, so Bashir’s replacement by one of his cronies would be unlikely to end the uprising.

There has been much speculation in the international media about whether Sudan is set to join the Arab Spring..

But many Sudanese activists have been quick to point out that they have their own history of uprising to emulate, having successfully overthrown two dictators since Sudan’s independence.

As the regime marks the June 30 anniversary of the 1989 National Islamic Front coup that brought Bashir to power, many Sudanese are hoping to add a third.

MORE:

Earlier Reports On The Sudanese Uprising:
Day 11 of the protests.

June 26, 2012 Published by Portside [Excerpts]

[report from Khartoum - Day 11 of the protests.

[Portside received the following email and press message from #SudanRevolts in the Sudan earlier today.]

DAY 11 OF THE PROTESTS.

Greetings,

Protests continue to breakout on the streets of Khartoum and it’s outskirts for the eleventh day.

Protesters are standing strong, chanting for a change of regime while President Omer AlBashir’s government continues to deny the existence of dissent.

Omar Al Bashir's regime is known for relentlessly inflicting terror on those who speak out; as a result, many protesters have been arrested or kidnapped.

Thank you for letting our voices be heard.

Kindest Regards
#SudanRevolts

DAY 10 OF THE PROTESTS.

PROTESTS CALLING FOR REGIME CHANGE IN SUDAN CONTINUE FOR A TENTH DAY

Tuesday, 26th June 2012

On aggregate #SudanRevolts estimates that 10,000 to 20,000 have demonstrated across Khartoum state over the past ten days and the protesters include not only students but citizens as well; protests have spontaneously been occurring in neighborhoods around the country.

Much larger protests have reached several states and cities including Port Sudan, Kassala, North Kordofan, White Nile, Darfur and Gedarif.

The demonstrations have continuously built up momentum and intensity since protests broke out on June 16, 2012 as female students from the University of Khartoum staged an impromptu demonstration opposing a 35% increase in transportation prices, increases in general food prices and dormitories fees.

Once joined by their male counterparts they moved off campus to Jamhuriya Street in the center of the city and were met by police forces that quickly dispersed the demonstrations.

The police forces subsequently raided the university dorms, beating and harassing the female occupants.

As the news spread, demonstrations began around the city in solidarity with the students.

By June 20, the fifth day of demonstrations, protests had grown in size and spread throughout Khartoum and the tri-state area.

Numerous universities had joined the movement and staged their own protests, including the University of Sudan, Al- Ahliya, Tighana University and Universities in Khartoum North. The outer state universities of Al Obeid, Sinnar and Gezira also soon joined in calling for a regime change.

At all the protests, students loyal to the NCP (National Congress Party) joined security forces in assaulting the protesters, using metal rods, knives and Molotov cocktails.

It did not take long for locals to join the revolt and June 22, 2012 brought “Sand Storm Friday” that started after Friday prayers and saw yet another series of demonstrations breakout across several districts in Khartoum, Bahri and Omdurman.

These protests continued into the early hours of Saturday morning and demonstrations were reported in over 30 locations. Some locations have seen mass protests while others involved several small groups using cat and mouse tactics with police within district alleys.

There has been an intense police and national security crackdown on the protests with extreme violence used not only to quell but to hurt and capture.

Injuries sustained by the University of Khartoum students have been severe, to the extent that the #SudanRevolts movement organized a blood donation drive on their behalf. Several hundreds have been arrested; many being released quickly but those perceived as mobilizers are being detained at National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS).

Several perceived mobilizers are being arrested from their homes, mostly youth activists (independent or party affiliated but opposition politicians are also now increasingly being arrested.

The injured are intercepted by NISS at hospitals - this has been witnessed at Omdurman Hospital.

The revolt comes after 23 long years of conflict, oppression and restrictions of basic freedoms.

The latest fiscal austerity measures, announced by President Al Bashir on June 18, 2012, and entailing 50-60% increases in fuel, sugar and an across the board tax hike, was ultimately the straw that broke the camel s back; the trigger for the long overdue revolt.

The current situation in Sudan grows desperate as citizens struggle to make ends meet.

Poverty in Sudan is endemic, currently at 46.5% overall and 57.6% in rural areas and growing more acute. Sudans Human Development Index is lowest of all MENA countries - 169 of 187 overall.

The following is a list of useful resources for information on the revolution in Sudan:

Main opposition group site - <http://www.girifna.com/>

#SudanRevolts in pictures - <http://storify.com/rodrigodavies/sudanrevolts-in-pictures>

#SudanRevolts Wordpress - <http://sudanrevolts.wordpress.com/>

#SudanRevolts Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/sdn.revolts>

#SudanRevolts Crowdvoice - -
<http://crowdvoice.org/sudan-protests>

List of Sudanese blogs:

<http://www.sudanese thinker.com/sudanese-bloggers/>

<http://redefiningthenarrative.com.au/>

<http://mimzology.blogspot.com/>

<http://sdunlimitedbloggers.blogspot.com/>

<http://bloodyredsaga.blogspot.se/>

55,000 Brit Tax Collectors Go On Strike: “The Government Wants To Cut 10,000 More Jobs From The Department, Letting Wealthy Tax Dodgers Off The Hook And Punishing The Rest Of Us”



Workers on the picket line today outside HMRC's head office in Euston, central London
(Pic: Guy Smallman)

[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

25 June 2012 Socialist Worker & Herald Scotland.com

Some 55,000 civil service workers in HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) struck on Monday against job cuts and privatisation.

The Tories want to axe 10,000 jobs in the department on top of 30,000 that have been lost since it was formed in 2005.

This is despite an estimated £120 billion of tax revenues being lost every year due to evasion and avoidance by corporations and the rich.

PCS general secretary Mark Serwotka said the cuts effectively meant “letting the wealthy tax dodgers off the hook and punishing the rest of us for a recession we did not cause”.

“Massive cuts” have undermined efforts to clamp down on tax-avoidance schemes.

PCS members action across the UK will close offices and leave telephone calls unanswered.

The union said 30,000 jobs had been axed since 2005 and a further 10,000 are set to go, undermining efforts to probe schemes such as the one used by comedian Jimmy Carr.

The union said an estimated £120 billion was lost every year because of tax evasion and avoidance, and claimed HMRC did not have enough resources to tackle the problem.

The strike is also in opposition to “creeping privatisation” in the department, which is currently trialling the use of private firms to handle tax-credit inquiries.

Action including an overtime ban will follow the strike.

PCS general secretary Mark Serwotka said: “It is sickening to see millionaires in the Cabinet wringing their hands about the immorality of tax avoidance when it is their lack of political will to act that means we lose tens of billions of pounds every year.

“The case for investment in our public services as an alternative to austerity could not be more obvious than it is in the HMRC.”

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news@uruknet.info

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