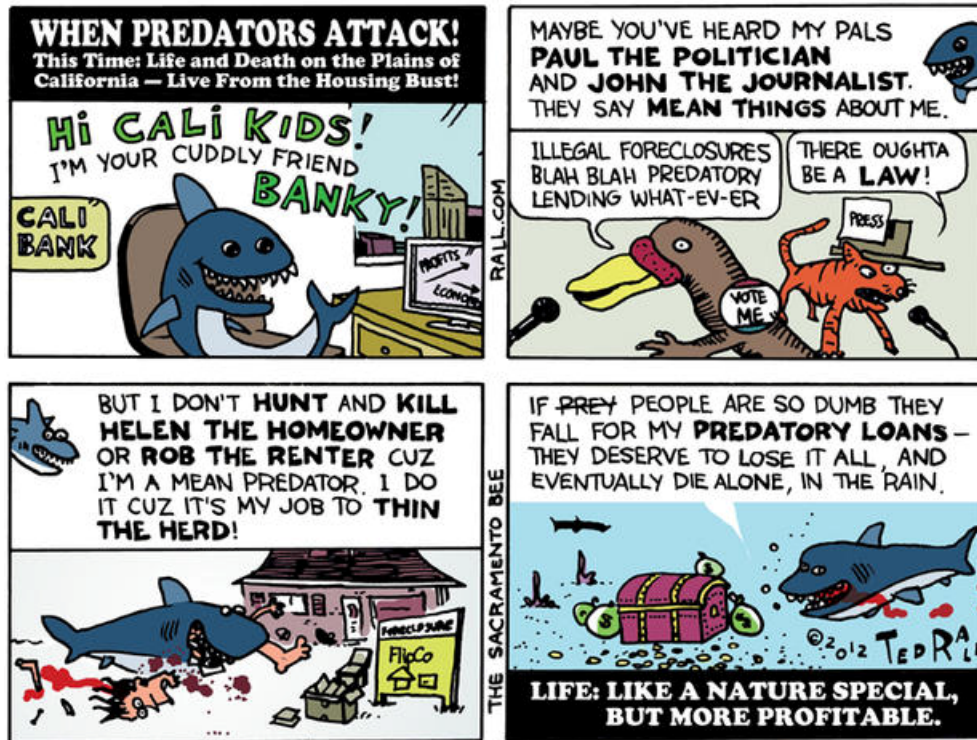


Military Resistance 10H8



Inside-The-Wire Attacks Double In Afghanistan:
“Beyond The Attacks, Afghan Commanders Have Found ‘Hundreds’ Of Other Soldiers In Their Ranks Who Appear To Be Linked To The Taliban Insurgency Or Hold Anti-American Views”

Aug 14, 2012 By Andrew Tilghman - Staff writer, Army Times [Excerpts]

Insider attacks by Afghan troops who turn their weapons on U.S. and NATO forces have doubled compared to last year, prompting the top U.S. commander in Kabul to step up efforts to identify potential inside-the-wire threats.

A spate of attacks in early August has brought the total of so-called green-on-blue attacks to 29 this year, military officials said. Last year, officials reported 12 similar attacks, according to data compiled by the New America Foundation.

Beyond the attacks, Afghan commanders have found “hundreds” of other soldiers in their ranks who appear to be linked to the Taliban insurgency or hold anti-American views, Dempsey said.

Insider attacks have killed 34 NATO troops this year, including 20 Americans.

That accounts for nearly 10 percent of the 224 U.S. troops killed in action this year.

Since 2007, a total of 102 NATO troops, including 51 Americans, have been killed in insider attacks, according to the New American Foundation.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan

August 15, 2012 Associated Press

The U.S. military reported that one of its soldiers died in a roadside bombing Wednesday in eastern Afghanistan.

Army Sergeant From Austin Killed In Afghanistan, Officials Say



July 30, 2012 By Jazmine Ulloa, Statesman

A 41-year-old Army sergeant from Austin was killed in Afghanistan last week on his second deployment, U.S. Department of Defense officials said this afternoon.

Sgt. John E. Hansen, 41, died Thursday in Khakrez, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when he encountered an enemy improvised explosive device, officials said. Lt. Sean R. Jacobs, 23, of Redding, Calif., also died in the incident, officials said.

The two were based out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Wash.

Hansen had last been at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in December 2011, when he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.

He was deployed with the unit to Afghanistan in April.

Hansen joined the U.S. Air Force in October 1999 and later joined the U.S. Army in September 2006. He reported to Fort Sill, Okla., for training and had assignments at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.; Fort Carson, Colo.; and Fort Bragg, N.C., officials said.

His first deployment was to Iraq from December 2007 to February 2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

His awards and decorations include the Army Commendation, two Army Achievement Medal awards, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Service Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, Air Force Basic Supply-Fuels Qualification Badge, and Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver - Wheeled Vehicles.

Another Soldier From Indian Rocks School Killed In Afghanistan: “He Mentioned Things Were Getting Kind Of Dangerous Over There”

August 04, 2012 By HOWARD ALTMAN, The Tampa Tribune

They were close friends at a small school in Largo with a graduating class of about 50.

Matt Sitton was center fielder for the Indian Rocks Christian School high school baseball team. Frank Gross pitched and played catcher.

The two, said their mothers, were fierce competitors who always tried to outdo each other. Part of a group of friends who liked to make crazy videos, they graduated in 2004, each eventually finding his way to the Army.

Last year, Gross, 25, was killed in Afghanistan.

Thursday night, the Sitton family was visited by a soldier and a chaplain.

Even before they walked into the house, Cheryl Sitton said, she realized that her son, 26, had joined his friend in making the ultimate sacrifice.

“My other son Jonny came into my room and said, 'Mom, there are two guys who want to see you and dad.’”

It was about 9 p.m.

“I just knew,” she said.

Growing up, Matt Sitton loved to have fun, his mother said.

“He was very adventuresome as a child,” she said. “If he could figure out a way to do something, he would do it.”

One of his favorite things, she said, was making videos “doing the stupidest things.

“They would be standing on the road, pretending to be hitting each other with a baseball bat or riding skateboards into bushes,” she said.

But Sitton's real passion was baseball.

“He was an amazing centerfielder,” said his mom. “He loved baseball. As a kid he would sleep with his ball and glove and bat all the time.”

Matt Sitton started out as an Atlanta Braves fan, “but for the last 10 years or more, he was a Rays fan. He was die-hard.”

As Matt Sitton grew from child to man, he swapped out his ever-present baseball togs for an Army battle dress uniform. “He loved the Army,” said Cheryl Sitton. “He believed in what he did.”

In 2007, as he was getting ready for his first deployment to Afghanistan, Matt Sitton found his soul mate.

“I just wanted to bless a soldier and be a pen pal and be an encouragement,” said Sarah Sitton. Two years later, on the Fourth of July, the couple were married.

Matt Sitton would have two more deployments to Afghanistan, in 2009 and again on Feb. 28 – his 26th birthday.

That was the last time Matt Sitton saw his family. They went to Fort Bragg to see him off.

Matt Sitton kept in touch with his family mostly by Skype, said his mother. His brother is a wide receiver with the University of South Florida Bulls.

He regularly Skyped with his wife and their son Brodey, who was just 2 -and-a-half months old when his dad left.

Cheryl Sitton said she remembers the last time she talked with her son on Skype.

It was about two weeks ago. They mostly talked about family and life and home. The wife he missed. The son he cherished.

But in that last Skype session, there was something foreboding.

“He mentioned things were getting kind of dangerous over there,” she said.

Sarah Sitton said her last conversation with her husband was on Sunday. They were planning on visiting Fort Bragg today to look for a place to live.

On Thursday, Matt Sitton was on a foot patrol when he stepped on an improvised explosive device, joining his good friend and teammate Frank Gross among the more than 2,000 men and women who have died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

His son never got to know him, but Cheryl Sitton said her grandson is just like his dad.

Brodey “has no clue what is going on,” she said. “He is the sweetest little smiley face guy you will ever meet. Just like his daddy.”

Sitton said that one day, she will sit down with her grandson and talk about his dad. “I will tell him what an amazing man,” she said, fighting back tears. “How he loved his Lord, and how he loved his family.”

Saturday, instead of going to look at a house, Sarah Sitton and her in-laws will instead fly to Dover Air Force Base, where they will watch Staff Sgt. Matt Sitton's body come off an airplane in a flag-draped coffin.

“My whole life, every plan that I made, stopped on Aug. 2, 2012,” Sarah Sitton said.

Toni Gross, who serves as president of the local chapter of the American Gold Star Mothers Inc., knows too well the pain her friend Cheryl Sitton is feeling.

The two women spent hours together, watching ball games, raising money for the small class that would lose two sons to war.

On July 30, 2011, she saw Matt Sitton for the last time. It was at a memorial service for her son Frank.

“I hugged Matt and gave him a T-shirt of Frank's,” she said.

Friday, it was Gross' turn to offer comfort.

“I let her know we are there for her,” said Gross.

Weatherford Sailor Killed In Afghanistan



Petty Officer 3rd Class Clayton R. Beauchamp. Family photo

Aug. 09, 2012 By Chris Vaughn and Marty Sabota, Star-Telegram

A 21-year-old Navy corpsman from Weatherford was killed Tuesday in Afghanistan, just three weeks into his first combat deployment.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Clayton R. Beauchamp, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, was killed by a roadside bomb while on foot patrol in the heavily contested Helmand province.

Beauchamp signed up for the Navy on his 17th birthday, Jan. 16, 2008, but continued to go to Weatherford High School.

He left for the Navy immediately after graduation in 2009, his family said.

His father, Jack Beauchamp, said his son, a field paramedic, had an option to take a less dangerous assignment but decided on Afghanistan because "he felt his skills would be better applied there."

Jack Beauchamp was interviewed by phone Thursday night. He was in Delaware and had just attended a ceremony at Dover Air Force Base, where service members' bodies are returned.

He said his son was "full of energy" and "lived life to the fullest."

"He had a knack for making everybody around him better," the father said.

"Clayton had absolutely no regrets," he said. "He believed in what he was doing and what he did. We take comfort in that he was doing what he wanted to do -- serving his country."

Clayton Beauchamp planned to return to Weatherford and become a paramedic after he retired from the Navy, according to a statement released by the family.

His brother, Christopher Beauchamp, 27, is a six-year Navy corpsman serving his third tour overseas.

Christopher traveled to Germany to escort his brother's body to Dover.

A younger sister, Cheyenne Beauchamp, 19, is in the Navy Security Forces, stationed in Virginia.

Clayton Beauchamp's close friend Austin Staggs, also of Weatherford, was killed in Afghanistan in December 2010 while serving in the Army.

Families of both men are developing local scholarship funds to honor them, Jack Beauchamp said.

"We would do it in their memories, to help other kids on their path to education," Jack Beauchamp said.

"Austin and Clayton would want it that way. They were positive lights to Weatherford."

In a statement from Weatherford school officials, high school English teacher Christine Goss described Beauchamp as a "kind and courteous young man with a lightning-fast grin."

"He typically was pretty quiet during class discussions, but when that grin flashed, everyone knew he had something interesting and fun to say," the statement said.

Beauchamp had earned a Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, Navy Expert ribbons in rifle and pistol, and the Fleet Marine Force Enlisted Warfare Specialist Device, according to the 1st Marine Division public affairs office.

He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

Beauchamp will be buried at Memorial Gardens in Weatherford. Funeral arrangements were not complete Thursday.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

Resistance Action: U.S. Base Workers Bombed

14 August, 2012 PakTribune & 15 Aug 2012 AAP & Associated Press

Nearly two dozen Afghan civilians were wounded on Wednesday when two grenades exploded inside a mosque compound.

At least nine worshippers were wounded when the grenades exploded during morning prayers at a mosque in Baghi Sara area, Khost police chief Sardar Mohammad Zazai said. One exploded inside the mosque and the other went off in a courtyard outside. The third failed to detonate.

He said many of the worshippers were Afghans who work at the nearby U.S. post, Forward Operating Base Salerno.

A spokesman for the NATO military coalition said Wednesday that there was no attack on the Salerno base, which is close to the mosque in Baghi Sara. Lt. Col. Hagen Messer said the American personnel at the base reported hearing gunfire from the mosque but that Afghan police were investigating.

KABUL: Three soldiers of Afghan National Army (ANA) were killed and five more wounded in separate attacks, defence ministry said.

The ANA troops were killed and wounded in explosions and direct attacks throughout the past 24 hours in Logar, Paktia, Wardak and Helmand provinces, the defence ministry announced in a statement late last night.

Bombers have launched multiple attacks in a remote corner of southwestern Afghanistan near the Iranian border, killing policemen.

Tuesday's bombings took place in the provincial capital, Zaranj, where three men wearing vests detonated their explosives in different neighbourhoods, provincial police chief Musa Rasouli said. At least 11 police were killed, he said.

Authorities said the casualties would have been far higher had they not learned of the plot beforehand.

Police killed two would-be attackers on Monday night and captured another three on Tuesday morning.

Three more militants attacked the governor's compound but were killed by security forces before they could detonate their vests.

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

MILITARY NEWS

Iraq War Veteran Suffering From PTS And Depression Surrenders At The Vietnam Memorial In Washington



From: CitizenSoldier
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: Surrender of an Iraqi Combat Vet
Date: Aug 15, 2012

By Tod Ensign, Director, Citizen Soldier
From: CitizenSoldier1@aol.com

E/4 Catalino "Papo" Rodriguez, 30, from Aberdeen, MD surrendered at the Vietnam Memorial on Wednesday, August 8th to dramatize the need for adequate mental health care and disability payments for thousands of Iraq and Afghan war veterans, including himself.

Rodriguez had served 15 grueling months as a combat medic with the 10th Mountain (Light) Division from Ft Drum, N Y in 2008-09.

He was required to treat on a daily basis severe injuries and process deaths among both soldiers and Iraqi civilians. At one point, three of his closest Army buddies were killed in an IED explosion and he felt deep (if irrational) guilt that he hadn't been able to treat or protect them.

Back at Ft Drum, he experienced several mental conditions that are common to PTSD sufferers; hyper-arousal, sleep disturbance, flashbacks, and thoughts of guilt and worthlessness. In one recurring nightmare, the head of his younger brother appeared on the body of a severely injured Iraqi child.

Although his commanders were made aware of his mental problems, he received no therapeutic therapy--just prescriptions for several powerful drugs to quiet him or help him sleep.

When he re-enlisted and reported to Walter Reed Army hospital in Washington, he hoped that his pleas for mental therapy would be answered, but they weren't.

He feared being sent back for another tour as a combat medic in Afghanistan because he feared that his shaky mental state would prevent him from providing first class care to his "battle buddies."

Rosemary Masters, J.D., L.C.S.W., a PTSD specialist based in New York City, evaluated Rodriguez by concluding that he suffers from both PTSD and Major Depression.

She recommended that he receive "cognitive behavioral therapy combined with appropriate medication (because it's) has been shown...to alleviate both depression and PTSD and is therefore considered the most appropriate treatment for these disorders."

Masters also recommended that the military authorities take into account both his honorable service in Iraq and his impaired mental state at the time he was AWOL.

Following his remarks at the Vietnam Memorial, Rodriguez formally surrendered at the gates of the Walter Reed medical facility, accompanied by his civilian attorney, Tod Ensign, who is also Director of Citizen Soldier.

At present, he is awaiting a decision by his commanders at the Army hospital as how they plan resolve his situation. He could be separated with an Honorable or Medical discharge or, worst case, he could be court martialled and imprisoned for his two year unauthorized absence from the military.

His US Senators from Maryland, as well as several Maryland House members have been alerted about this case and will be asked to render statements of support for his prompt discharge if they are needed.

Four-Star Army General Under Investigation:

**“Allegations That He Spent Several
Hundred Thousand Dollars Allowing
Unauthorized People, Including
Family Members, To Fly On
Government Planes, And Spent
Excessive Amounts Of Money On
Hotel Rooms, Transportation And
Other Expenses”
“A Four-Star General Is The Highest
Rank In The Army”**

Aug 15, 2012 By Lolita C. Baldor - The Associated Press [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — A four-star Army general who was the first head of the new U.S. Africa Command is under investigation and facing possible demotion for allegedly spending hundreds of thousands of dollars improperly on lavish travel, hotels and other items, The Associated Press has learned.

Gen. William “Kip” Ward has been under investigation for about 17 months, and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is expected to make a final decision on the matter before the end of the month, according to several defense officials.

The defense officials said Ward is facing numerous allegations that he spent several hundred thousand dollars allowing unauthorized people, including family members, to fly on government planes, and spent excessive amounts of money on hotel rooms, transportation and other expenses when he traveled as head of Africa Command.

A four-star general is the highest rank in the Army.

The Defense Department inspector general has completed its investigation into Ward's activities, and the issue is under legal review.

Ward stepped down early last year after serving as the first head of the Europe-based Africa Command, which was created in 2007, and he intended to retire.

He did all the paperwork and was hosted at a retirement ceremony in April 2011 at Fort Myer in Virginia, but the Army halted his plans to leave because of the investigation.

Ever since then, he has been working in Northern Virginia, serving as a special assistant to the vice chief of the Army.

For Ward, the investigation has dragged on so long that he technically has been demoted from his four-star general rank to two-star general.

Under military guidelines, if a full general is not serving in a four-star command or office for more than 60 days, he or she is automatically reduced to two-star rank.

As a result, Ward's base pay went from more than \$20,000 a month as a four-star to about \$14,000 a month as a two-star general. Defense officials said that if the decision is to allow him to retire as a three-star or four-star, he would not receive any back pay for the 15 months he served at the lower rank.

A key element of Ward's job was to dispel worries about the new command, meet with African leaders and work to expand and strengthen U.S. military ties so that the nations there are better able to provide for their own defense.

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

**It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.
-- Larry Christensen, Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers**

Candidates Fight For Troop Votes, Highlight Military Experience:

**“For The Big Finale, We’re Going To
Have The President Set Some C-4
Out On A Building And Slowly Walk
Away As It Explodes”**

**The Republican Convention Will
“Feature Mitt Romney Rappelling Onto
The Stage, Where He’ll Perform
‘America, Fuck Yeah!’ As Troops From
The Nearby MacDill Air Force Base
Dance In The Background”**





Rendering of the 'Cool Guys Don't Look At Explosions' campaign ad that the DNC hopes to achieve

August 8, 2012 by John "Whiskey Tango Foxtrot" Mittle, Duffel Blog. Duffel Blog investigative journalist Paul also contributed to this report. [<http://www.duffelblog.com/>]

Fort Bragg, NC - As the 2012 Presidential election race heats up, both candidates have engaged in a political firefight for the votes of military service-members and veterans.

While President Obama and former Governor Mitt Romney regularly wear flag lapel pins, they are also trying to differentiate themselves to appeal to potential supporters in uniform.

President Obama hopes to capitalize on his experiences as commander-in-chief. In fact, political operatives within the Democratic National Committee announced that Fort Bragg Army base would be host to their upcoming convention.

A DNC spokesman cited budget concerns as the primary reason for the short move away from Charlotte, NC.

"Unfortunately the DNC has a 26 million dollar fundraising shortfall," said Brad Woodhouse. "But we feel it is also a great way to be closer to our troops and save some money by holding it at Fort Bragg's Pike Field."

David Axelrod, the President's campaign advisor, was skeptical of the venue change due to the President's lack of military credentials.

The commander-in-chief, however, calmed his fears by reminding him of "his 'gutsy call' to nab bin Laden, the recent killing of three Taliban fighters in Afghanistan, and frequent military-like salutes to Marines after he departs from his helicopter."

"Not to mention his occasional Saddam Hussein-esque firing of a rifle from the White House balcony," Axelrod added.

The move comes as both candidates seek the approval of the nation's uniformed men and women in an election where neither candidate has prior military experience.

The Romney campaign blasted the use of a military base for political purposes as unconstitutional, while also talking about their candidate's service in uniform.

"Mitt Romney has selflessly served our nation since April 1965 when he enlisted in the elite ranks of the Selective Service," said campaign manager Matt Rhoades. "Furthermore, while deployed on missions to France in the seventies, he fought tirelessly against communist aggression in Vietnam."

Rhoades also added that Romney ate "a ton of freedom fries to show his support for the troops during the Iraq war."

Despite objections from the right, the Democratic National Convention activities will include a demonstration by the U.S. Army parachute team, a military parade with pass-in-review of the President, and a special trip out to a demolitions range.

"We don't need to do polling to know the American people love to see big-ass explosions," said Axelrod. "So for the big finale, we're going to have the President set some C-4 out on a building and slowly walk away as it explodes. The photos are going to be phenomenal!"

or the big finale, we're going to have the President set some C-4 out on a building and slowly walk away as it explodes, held at the Tampa Bay Times Forum, will also feature Mitt Romney rappelling into the arena and onto the stage, where it is rumored he'll perform "America, Fuck Yeah!" as troops from the nearby MacDill Air Force base dance in the background.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?

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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

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

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

ANNIVERSARIES

August 15, 1876: Historic Betrayal



Lakota Sioux watch as their Black Hills are invaded. Painting by Howard Terpning

Carl Bunin Peace History

August 15, 1876:

Congress passed a law to remove the Lakota Sioux and their allies from the Black Hills country of South Dakota after gold was found there. Often referred to as the “starve or sell” bill, it provided that no further appropriations would be made for 1868 Treaty-guaranteed rations for the Sioux unless they gave up their sacred Black Hills, or Paha Sapa. That treaty had granted them the territory and hunting rights in exchange for peace.

[Excerpts]

STATEMENT OF MARIO GONZALEZ, ATTORNEY, CHEYENNE RIVER AND PINE RIDGE WOUNDED KNEE SURVIVORS' ASSOCIATIONS AND OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE, SUPPORTING PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL AND HISTORIC SITE TO COMMEMORATE THE EVENTS SURROUNDING THE 1890 INDIAN MASSACRE AT WOUNDED KNEE CREEK, SOUTH DAKOTA, IN THE HEARING OF SEPTEMBER 25, 1990, BEFORE THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS, U.S. SENATE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

[Excerpts]

Mr. Chairman, and honorable Members of the Committee, my name is Mario Gonzalez. I am an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and a descendant of Chief Lip's Band. I am appearing here today as the attorney for the Wounded Knee Survivors'

Associations and the Oglala Sioux Tribe. I am honored to appear before the Committee to discuss events surrounding the December 29, 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre.

I am also related by blood to some of the victims and survivors of the massacre. Dewey Beard , the last survivor of the Battle of the Little Bighorn and an 1890 Massacre survivor, was a first cousin to my great-great-grandmother, Rattling Hawk. Dewey's real mother, Seen By Her Nation, and my great-great-great-grandmother, Jealous Of Her, were sisters.

One cannot understand what happened at Wounded Knee without understanding something about the Sioux people and their history.

The term "Sioux" should be distinguished from the word "Siouan," which refers to a linguistic stock that the Sioux are a part of. Other Siouan peoples include such Tribes as the Mandan, Omaha, Otoe, Winnebago and Osage. The Sioux refer to themselves as "Lakota," "Dakota," or "Nakota," depending on whether the "L," " D" or "N" dialect is used.

It is also important to understand that the term "Sioux Nation" has been used to refer to different entities at different times. According to the Indian Claims Commission, the Sioux people were divided into seven divisions:

- Mdewakantons
- Sissetons
- Wahpakootas
- Wahpetons
- Yanktonais
- Yanktons
- Tetons

The Mdewakantons, Sissetons, Wahpakootas, and Wahpetons, or eastern Sioux, are sometimes referred to as "Santee" or "Mississippi" Sioux and speak with the "D" dialect. The Yanktonais also speak with the "D" dialect. The Yanktons speak with the "N" dialect and the Tetons with the "L" dialect.

The Tetons, or the western Sioux, were sub-divided into seven bands:

- Blackfeet
- Brule
- Hunkpapa
- Minneconjou
- Oglala
- Saris Arc (No Bows)
- Two Kettle

The Teton Bands held aboriginal title to a vast territory west of the Missouri River in what are now the States of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado. Much of this territory was held jointly with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Nations. The Big Horn Mountains were the western boundary. The Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers were the northern boundary. The Republican River was the southern boundary.

In 1874 the United States Army planned and undertook a military expedition into the Black Hills portion of the Great Sioux Reservation. The expedition was led by Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, who sent out glowing reports of gold.

This led to an invasion of the Hills by white miners and settlers in violation of the 1868 Treaty and created intense pressure on Congress to open the Hills for settlement. The influx of miners and settlers into the Hills increased when President Grant refused to enforce the Treaty and remove these trespassers. In the winter of 1875 and 1876, most of the Sioux were residing on the Great Sioux Reservation, keeping the peace they promised to maintain under the 1868 Treaty.

Others were exercising their hunting rights with their Cheyenne and Arapahoe allies near the Big Horn Mountains. Contrary to the terms of the Treaty, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs sent instructions to the hunting parties that if they did not return to the Great Sioux Reservation by January 31, 1876, they would be declared "hostile." The Sioux were under no legal obligation to return and could not return because of the weather. They were attacked, but defeated General Crook at the Battle of Rosebud and annihilated Lt. Col. Custer at the Battle of the Little Bighorn on June 25, 1876.

The U.S. violated Articles 11 and 16 of the 1868 Treaty by attacking the Sioux while they were exercising their right to hunt near the Bighorn Mountains. Although some refer to the Battle of the Little Bighorn as a "massacre," it was clearly a battle in which the Indians were defending their families against an egocentric Indian fighter who planned to capitalize on the event and become President of the United States.

The United States Government resented its defeat at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The Battle, therefore, marked the beginning of a course of dishonorable dealings by the federal government with the Sioux people to [get] revenge [for] Custer's defeat. This course has continued down to the present time.

On August 15, 1876, Congress passed an appropriations bill, often referred to as the "starve or sell" bill, which provided that no further appropriations would be made for the subsistence of the Sioux under the 1868 Treaty unless they gave up the Black Hills and reached an accommodation with the United States that would enable them to become self-supporting.

To accomplish this cession, Congress requested the President to appoint a commission to negotiate an agreement with the Sioux to buy the Hills.

The 1876 Commission, however, could not obtain the requisite number of signatures required by Article 12 of the 1868 Treaty, so Congress took matters into its own hands and enacted the proposed "Agreement" into law on February 28, 1877. This enactment confiscated the Black Hills, the 1851 Treaty lands, and hunting rights recognized under the 1868 Treaty.

August 16, 1819: Horrible Anniversary:

THE PETERLOO MASSACRE

“The Government’s Attitude Was Made Clear By Its Total Endorsement Of The Massacre”



[spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk]

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

[Thanks to Max Watts, who sent this in.]

When all the contingents had arrived and assembled in the centre of Manchester, something like 12 per cent of the population of the county of Lancashire, and over half that of its industrial South East were present. It was the largest assembly England had ever seen.

As soon as all the contingents had filled St Peter's Field, to the point where, according to a contemporary report, people were packed in so tightly that 'their hats seemed to touch', the area was ringed by 1,500 troops with cannon.

1981 By Graham Milner, Unpublished

On August 16, 1819, mounted regular troops and yeomanry of the British army, acting on the instructions of Government officials, attacked without warning a mass meeting of over 100,000 people drawn from the industrial centres of Lancashire in the north-west of England.

The meeting, held on St Peter's Field in the centre of Manchester, the major industrial city of Lancashire, had been organised as part of a national campaign to win a radical reform of the British parliament and to redress the economic grievances of working people.

Over four hundred men, women and children were killed or seriously injured as a result of this 'action'.

One of the cavalry units involved - the 11th Hussars - had been present at the Battle of Waterloo, which had occurred four years earlier. As soon as the massacre became known to the public, the savage sobriquet 'Peterloo' was universally adopted.

The August 16 massacre in Manchester was one outcome of an extraordinarily powerful and determined agitation for social and political justice in England which at times approached pre-revolutionary proportions. The primary social force behind this mass agitation was the new working class.

This new class, the industrial proletariat, emerged from the industrial revolution, a transformation of economic and social relations that began towards the end of the 18th century, primarily in parts of north-west England. The cradle of this revolution was in fact south-east Lancashire, and Manchester in particular.

Here, technological innovations developed in the latter third of the 18th century, such as the steam engine, the power loom and the spinning jenny, were applied to the previously-dispersed, domestic-based cotton industry then existing. The 'putting-out' system, whereby spinners and weavers worked at home at more or less their own pace, was replaced by vast factories employing hundreds or thousands of workers.

The new machine industry was concentrated in these factories. Raw materials and fuel for the machines came from the coal and iron extraction industries then emerging in other parts of England and Scotland. Around the factories grew up large industrial towns such as Rochdale, Stockport, Oldham and Blackburn, as well as the world's first industrial city - Manchester.

The previously-existing social order broke up in Lancashire and other emergent industrial districts, and was replaced by a new one.

Ties of dependence descended from feudalism - a deferential hierarchy linking 'masters' and 'men'; the static, rigid order overseen by landlord and parson; all this was burst asunder and replaced by the cut-throat world of capitalist competition.

In these regions the whole pattern of life was revolutionised.

By 1800, of English cities, Manchester was second only to London in size.

Near to the centre of Manchester, in large opulent houses, lived the new rich - the capitalist factory owners. Surrounding the factories lived the workers and their families. Many of these workers were ruined hand-loom weavers or hand spinners forced to seek work in factory towns like Manchester, as competition from cheap, machine-produced goods forced them out of their traditional occupations.

Many capitalists made quick fortunes raising jerry-built, back-to-back slums to house the workers. Almost without exception these slums were overcrowded, damp, ill-lit, without sanitation, and without running water or gardens.

Many who sought employment were denied it by the frequent slumps that punctuated the evolution of capitalist industry. Those who did find work were faced with ruthless exploitation and appalling working conditions.

Long hours - fourteen hours per day was quite usual - abysmally low wages, child labour and dangerous, unguarded machinery were the norm. Sexual abuse of women by foremen and capitalists was rampant. Immigrant workers, especially those from Ireland, fared particularly badly.

The new working class was by no means a 'dormant, passive mass' in the face of these conditions of life and work. It hit back at its oppressors in an increasingly intelligent, organised and effective way.

Working class radicalism in England was on the rise when the French Revolution broke out in 1789. Jacobin democratic clubs sprang up across the country during the 1790s, inspired by the Revolution in France, and by widely-circulated books such as Tom Paine's 'The Rights of Man'.

The Government's repression of domestic radicalism, which it combined with a reactionary war against the French republic, was strongly and widely opposed by workers.

The historian Edward Thompson, in his book 'The Making of the English Working Class' reveals how the English workers fought back during the period of the French wars, by organising unions and secret societies in defiance of the Combination Acts, and by burning mills and smashing the machines that threatened their livelihoods.

By 1815 the revolutionary ferment brewing underground burst forth in the mass radicalism that was to come to a head in 1819.

At this time Manchester and its surrounding area was, among governing circles, considered to be the most 'turbulent and seditious' in the country. The mass

movement as a national force directed itself towards achieving first political rights, and secondly social and economic justice.

Political rights included first and foremost a democratic, representative parliament, and it included the sweeping away of 'Old Corruption'. Under that system bribery and patronage of electors were rife.

Old Sarum, which had been the parliamentary seat of William Pitt the Elder, consisted of a few tufts of grass, while Manchester, with its population of 200,000, went unrepresented. Repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, under which religious minorities - Jews, Roman Catholics and Non-Conformists in particular - faced discrimination in public life, was another major issue.

Repeal of the anti-trade union Combination Acts, and the monopolistic Corn Laws also were major focuses of organised agitation.

The ongoing economic struggle for improved wages, shorter hours and better working conditions was made more imperative by the acute distress of the post-war years in England.

Industry and trade slumped.

Unemployment rose and was swelled by the return of demobilized troops from Continental Europe.

Wages fell. Actual starvation faced many working-class communities.

Joseph Johnson, a shareholder in the Radical newspaper the 'Manchester Observer', wrote of conditions in Manchester in 1819, the year of Peterloo: 'Everything is almost at a standstill, nothing but ruin and starvation stare one in the face. The state of the district is truly dreadful.'

The Government in power at this time, that of the Tory Prime Minister Lord Liverpool, has been described as one of the most reactionary and repressive in British history. It represented the interests of no more than a narrow ruling class of big landowners, City financiers and merchants.

Liverpool and his closest advisors were firmly convinced that England was on the brink of revolution.

The Home Secretary, Sidmouth, who had control of the police, militia and army units stationed in England, had organised an elaborate network of spies to disrupt the radical movement.

Castlereigh, another of Liverpool's ministers, had been instrumental in the suppression of the Irish Rebellion of 1798 and the subsequent terror campaign and forced Union of Ireland with Britain.

Control of Manchester itself was in the hands of the descendents of the same local landed clique that had ruled this once small market town in pre-industrial

times. Landowners and clergymen dominated the local magistracy - this body was to have direct responsibility for instigating the Peterloo massacre.

A local levy of merchants, manufacturers, publicans and shopkeepers, all rabid enemies of the working-class radical movement, formed the backbone of the 'Manchester and Salford Yeomanry Cavalry' - the body that charged into the assembly at St Peter's Field.

Although one of the powerhouses of the mass movement for radical reform was centered in the industrial districts of Lancashire, by 1819 a coordinated national effort was well under way, based on mass mobilisations in all the major cities.

1817 had witnessed a huge meeting of workers, mainly spinners and weavers, assembling on St Peter's Field to see off the famous 'March of the Blanketeers' from Manchester to London. The march sought redress of economic grievances.

1818 had been a year of mass strikes aimed at restoring falling wage levels. These strikes showed a great capacity by workers for discipline and organisation, with meetings, marches and pickets in Manchester and Stockport.

A new feature of these actions was the increasing participation of women workers. Union Societies were founded to develop basic education in the working class and to circulate the ideas of radicalism in an organised way. Women had their own separate Union Societies.

The workers' press advanced the ideas of radicalism with imagination and tenacity. The most widely-read newspapers among radicals and radical sympathisers were William Cobbett's 'Political Register', as well as 'The Black Dwarf'.

A typical issue of the Radical 'Manchester Observer', founded in 1818, included alongside a demand for the impeachment of Sidmouth, coverage of the republican revolution in Venezuela.

Mass meetings for parliamentary reform and for the repeal of the hated Corn Laws, which artificially inflated the price of bread, took place in Stockport and Manchester in the first half of 1819.

By July thousands of workers had begun drilling on the moors and in the fields outside working-class districts in Lancashire. The same thing occurred in other parts of the country. In July as many as 2000 workers paraded in semi-military formation along the High Rd from Manchester to Rochdale.

These preparations were primarily aimed at improving organisation for the planned August mass meeting at St Peter's Field, to which contingents from surrounding towns were to march. The planned assembly in Manchester was part of a broader national effort for July-August 1819, which organised large meetings in Birmingham, Leeds and London.

The reactionary oligarchy controlling the city of Manchester made preparations in league with Sidmouth and the national Government for what amounted to the

waging of civil war on the workers expected to pour into Manchester to demand reform of parliament.

In July the magistracy formed an 'Armed Association for the Preservation of the Peace' and enrolled special constables.

Military units in the S.E. Lancashire areas were mobilised as part of a national military alert. As soon as instructions came through, the yeomanry sent its sabres to be sharpened.

On the final weekend before the rally at St Peter's Field the city magistracy sat in almost continuous session to discuss ways and means of dealing with the mobilisation.

In the weeks before the St Peter's Field meeting, which as everyone expected would be the largest meeting ever seen in England, Manchester's streets and buildings were covered with posters and placards, and thousands of leaflets and fliers were distributed.

The publicising and organisation of the assembly was a major achievement of communication and organisation. Assembly points were announced from which people in the towns and districts surrounding Manchester could gather and from there march in disciplined contingents to the rally.

August 16 in Lancashire was a lovely summer day with a cloudless sky and a hot sun shining. There was a confident, cheerful and festive atmosphere as the contingents gathered and prepared to march.

Bands played, and the beautiful banners, woven and embroidered with great care, were unfurled. Oldham's banner was of pure white silk, emblazoned with the inscriptions 'Universal Suffrage, Annual Parliaments - Election by Ballot', and 'No Combination Acts: Oldham Union'.

Saddleworth's was jet black, with the inscription 'Equal Representation or Death' in white over two joined hands and a heart. One of the banners carried by the Stockport contingent read 'Success to the Female Reformers of Stockport'. Many red caps of liberty were carried.

When all the contingents had arrived and assembled in the centre of Manchester, something like 12 per cent of the population of the county of Lancashire, and over half that of its industrial South East were present. It was the largest assembly England had ever seen.

As soon as all the contingents had filled St Peter's Field, to the point where, according to a contemporary report, people were packed in so tightly that 'their hats seemed to touch', the area was ringed by 1,500 troops with cannon.

No-one in the crowd, least of all the organisers, suspected that an attempt to physically disperse the meeting was planned. Meetings such as this, even if smaller and without the same evident discipline and organisation, had been held many times before up and down the country.

The ensuing massacre was completely unexpected and unprovoked, and met with little organised resistance.

The city magistrates had even gone to the lengths in their preparations for the massacre of employing scavengers to remove every stone, brick or possible missile from the Field and surrounding streets, so that the meeting's participants were thus left entirely without defence.

Barely had Hentry Hunt, the main featured speaker, begun to address the meeting when mounted troopers of the yeomanry charged the hustings to arrest him and others on the platform.

At first the crowd, which had not been aware of the presence of the troops, did not panic and Hunt shouted: 'Stand firm, my friends: there are only a few soldiers, and we are a host against them'.

But as the yeomanry, many of whom were drunk, charged with sabres drawn, slashing and cutting their way through the crowd and trampling and crushing many people, chaos and panic gripped the field.

According to witnesses cited in Joyce Marlow's account 'The Peterloo Massacre', the yeomanry, having tasted blood, went berserk. They dragged the speakers and organisers from the hustings and would have killed Hunt had he not been quickly whisked away to jail. The yeomanry continued to slash and cut indiscriminately at men, women and children alike, while smashing wagons and platforms, and tearing the banners and the caps of liberty. The regular cavalry then moved onto the field to complete the work. Hundreds more people suffered serious injuries from the slashing sabres and flying hooves, or were smothered under piles of falling bodies.

Ten minutes from the first charge it was all over. Samuel Bamford, the Lancashire poet, described the scene:

'...the field was an open and almost deserted space. The hustings remained, with a few broken and hewed flagstaves erect, and a torn and gashed banner or two drooping; whilst over the whole field were strewn the caps, bonnets, hats, shawls and shoes and other parts of male and female dress; trampled, torn and bloody. The yeomanry had dismounted - some were easing their horse's girths and some were wiping their sabres'

Many more people were killed and maimed as the troops continued to 'disperse' the crowd through surrounding streets.

That night one person was shot dead and several injured in clashes between soldiers and crowds of angry workers.

The Government's attitude was made clear by its total endorsement of the massacre.

The Prince Regent, then disporting himself on his yacht, made it known, through Sidmouth, what great satisfaction he had derived from the magistrate's 'prompt, decisive and efficient measure for the preservation of public tranquility'. Despite repeated and

widely-voiced demands for one, there was never an official inquiry into the Peterloo Massacre.

An immense wave of anger swept across England in the wake of the massacre.

The mass movement for reform was not appreciably set back by the Peterloo massacre. A huge crowd estimated by the conservative 'Times' at 300,000 lined the streets of London to greet Hunt after his release from jail.

Meetings were spurred all over England by the events at St Peter's Field, especially in the North East counties, where over 50,000 miners marched into Newcastle from surrounding districts.

Loyalist forces in this area began arming, and the pitmen took up arms to defend themselves. In the months of October and November, according to Edward Thompson, workers across the country stocked pikes and other weapons to defend themselves and their meetings.

Drilling and armed demonstrations were reported in Newcastle, Wolverhampton, Wigan, Bolton and Blackburn.

Divisions within the Radical movement's leadership between constitutionalists and revolutionaries were not resolved, and this crisis of leadership, combined with renewed Government repression and an economic upturn brought this early phase of mass working class struggle to a close.

The events in Manchester on August 16, 1819 however, will remain forever inscribed in the collective memory of the international working class.

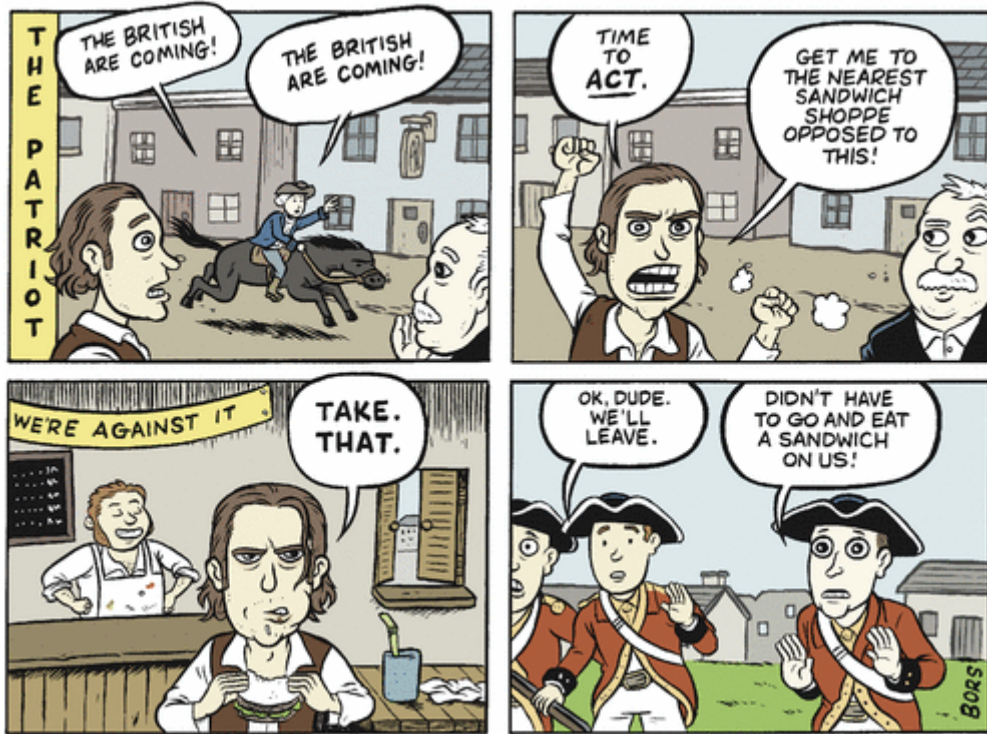
Shelley's poem 'The Masque of Anarchy' was written just after Peterloo, and its final stanza carries the fighting sentiments of thousands of workers:

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

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.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



U.S. Government Reports Iran Not On Verge Of Nuclear Weapon: The Last Formal NIE On Iran In 2007 “Said Tehran Had Halted Nuclear Weaponization Work In 2003”

Aug 9, 2012 By Tabassum Zakaria, Mark Hosenball and Maayan Lubell, Reuters
[Excerpts]

Washington/Jerusalem - The United States still believes that Iran is not on the verge of having a nuclear weapon and that Tehran has not made a decision to pursue one, U.S. officials said on Thursday.

Their comments came after Israeli media reports claimed U.S. President Barack Obama had received a new National Intelligence Estimate saying Iran had made significant and surprising progress toward military nuclear capability.

But a White House National Security Council spokesman disputed the Israeli reports, saying the U.S. intelligence assessment of Iran's nuclear activities had not changed since intelligence officials delivered testimony to Congress on the issue earlier this year.

"We believe that there is time and space to continue to pursue a diplomatic path, backed by growing international pressure on the Iranian government," the spokesman said.

"We continue to assess that Iran is not on the verge of achieving a nuclear weapon."

The last formal NIE on Iran in 2007, partially made public by the administration of President George W. Bush, became highly controversial because it said Tehran had halted nuclear weaponization work in 2003, although other aspects of the overall program continued.

A later update to that report retained that central assessment, sources have previously said.

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