

## **Military Resistance 10J8**

**“WHAT WE’RE HERE FOR”**



Since 2001 the opium cultivation increased over 4,400%. Under the US, Afghanistan became world largest opium producer, which produces 93% of world opium. [RAWA]

**“Here Around Camp Bastion,  
Marines Take Pains Not To  
Damage The Poppy Fields”  
“Thanks For Protecting Our  
Village, And Our Fields From The  
Police’ Said The White-Bearded  
Village Elder, Allah Nazar”  
“That’s What We’re Here For,’ The  
Sergeant Said, Matter-Of-Factly”**

## **“When The Taliban Breached The Base’s Defenses Last Month, They Blended In Among The Thousands Of Farmers Who Have Flocked To This Part Of Helmand”**



Lt. Mark Mencik showing a pod of opium poppy in Boldak. Yaroslav Trofimov/The Wall Street Journal

**The Taliban, the elder assured the Marines, never come to the village, and have no local support.**

**A few minutes later, the Marines picked up a spent AK-47 round among dry poppy pods. “They play both sides,” Lt. Mencik said as the troops moved on. “Every single one of them.”**

October 12, 2012 By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV, The Wall Street Journal

BOLDAK, Afghanistan—One after another, lumbering jets taking off from Camp Bastion, the giant coalition base in Afghanistan’s most violent province of Helmand, flew over the heads of Marines patrolling this village of mud compounds and poppy fields.

This area was largely uninhabited desert when Camp Bastion was established in 2006, a location that allowed the troops to spot hostile intruders from miles away.

Not anymore: when the Taliban breached the base's defenses last month, they blended in among the thousands of farmers who have flocked to this part of Helmand as an unintended consequence of Afghanistan's opium-eradication campaign.

The population influx facilitated the attack, and highlighted the old conflict between the war's aims of combating the Taliban and the narrower goal of fighting narcotics.

**The U.S. and allies have to weigh the necessity of eradicating opium — Afghanistan's main export and one of the Taliban's main sources of income — against the need to win the cooperation of villagers in Taliban-infested areas, many of them dependent on poppy farming for their livelihoods.**

The Sept. 14 attack on Camp Bastion, home to thousands of U.S. Marines and British troops, was one of the most daring Taliban operations since the war began 11 years ago.

**Dressed in American uniforms, the 16 insurgents cut through three lines of barbed wires to sneak onto Camp Bastion, where they destroyed more than \$200 million worth of U.S. combat aircraft, killed the Marine Harrier jet squadron's commander, and incinerated the camp's jet-fuel tanks.**

"This was well-planned and well-executed," said Marine Maj. Gen. Charles M. Gurganus, the commander of coalition forces in Helmand.

"They had pretty good knowledge of where they were going."

**Before launching the attack, the Taliban — who Gen. Gurganus said may have benefited from insider help — carried out "a very detailed study of the terrain," which enabled them to move right under the view of observation towers on the perimeter of the camp.**

**Military officials say the insurgents used a dry riverbed on the eastern side of the camp, after gathering in the area in the guise of farmers before the attack.**

There were no such farmers to hide among in this part of Helmand until the last couple of years.

Until recently, most of the province's main crop, opium, was grown in the more fertile "green zone" around the Helmand River farther south.

**It was the coalition military offensives there during President Barack Obama's troop surge in 2010 and 2011, coupled with the Afghan government's poppy-eradication drive, that pushed opium cultivation further into the desert.**

**With the poppy came thousands of migrant farmers who are now plowing the fields in Camp Bastion's vicinity under the baking sun, using tractors and electricity-powered irrigation wells alongside camels.**

Afghanistan accounts for some 90% of the world's illicit opiates, and most Afghan production comes from Helmand.

Many of the poppy farmers' new villages here in the desert don't yet have names.

On military maps, they are named after New York City boroughs, with one collection of mud-hovels dubbed Manhattan and another labeled Queens.

"Around here, it's the Taliban trying to protect the crops — and it's money growing in the ground," said Capt. Chris Polidora, commander of Bravo company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines that is tasked with securing the camp's vicinity.

He and his men — who are regularly targeted by roadside bombs and potshots — recently walked by freshly plowed fields in Boldak, under Camp Bastion's flight path.

Dried poppy pods, bearing the scratch marks used to collect the narcotic gum and then emptied to plant the fresh crop, littered the roadside.

"Everything here, all that now looks just like fields of rocks, will be turned into poppy fields," said Lt. Mark Mencik, commander of the platoon that patrols the area. "These people came here to plant poppy, and that's all they do."

**Afghan security forces seldom venture into the area, and there is no Afghan government presence, he said.**

**The area under opium cultivation has actually increased in recent years, according to United Nations surveys, despite the Afghan government's policy of destroying poppy fields.**

In contrast, the U.S.-led coalition doesn't interfere with the opium cultivation.

Trying not to antagonize the villagers whose livelihoods depend on the illicit crops, the U.S. and allies instead focus their efforts on drug labs and high-level narcotics dealers.

**Here around Camp Bastion, Marines take pains not to damage the poppy fields as they drive through, even if this involves a higher chance of being hit by roadside bombs.**

**"The Americans are not here to tell people they can't grow poppies. They have to hear it from the Afghans—who are not here," Lt. Mencik said, referring to the government.**

As Marines and coalition troops from Jordan entered a neighborhood of Boldak on a recent day, the white-bearded village elder, Allah Nazar, ran toward the patrol.

"The police would come here to destroy our poppy fields. Thanks for protecting our village, and our fields from the police," he told Sgt. Matt Brunnemann, nodding vigorously.

"That's what we're here for," the sergeant said, matter-of-factly. "Looking after their best interests."

The Taliban, the elder assured the Marines, never come to the village, and have no local support.

A few minutes later, the Marines picked up a spent AK-47 round among dry poppy pods. "They play both sides," Lt. Mencik said as the troops moved on. "Every single one of them."

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Married Lesbian Soldier Killed in Afghanistan**



October 05 2012 BY Trudy Ring, Advocate.com

A married lesbian was among three service members killed in a suicide bomb attack in Afghanistan this week.

Army staff sergeant Donna R. Johnson was killed Monday when a man riding a motorcycle packed with explosives rammed into a group of soldiers on patrol in Khost, a city in the eastern part of Afghanistan, the Associated Press reports. The suicide bomber was identified as a member of the Taliban.

Johnson, 29, was a member of the North Carolina National Guard, as were two men killed along with her, Sgt. Jeremy F. Hardison, 23, and Sgt. Thomas J. Butler IV, 25.

"The bomber struck about 9 a.m., shortly after the troops got out of their vehicles to walk through a market area in Khost," AP reports. Also killed were "an Afghan translator working with the American troops, four local police officers and six civilians," according

to the wire service. Three other U.S. soldiers and about 60 Afghan civilians were wounded.

The American Military Partner Association noted on its Facebook page that Johnson is survived by her wife, Tracy Dice.

The post continued, "In days to come, the American Military Partner Association will be sharing more of the story of Donna & Tracy and their commitment to each other and our nation. We ask for your continued thoughts, prayers, and privacy for Tracy and her family during this difficult time."

Dice also serves in the military, according to North Carolina TV station WRAL. Rene Johnson, Donna's sister, told WRAL the couple had been together for several years, long before "don't ask, don't tell" was repealed.

"She is a soldier," Rene Johnson said of her sister. "She went over there to fight, not because she was gay or because she was lesbian."

## **POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE BLOODSHED**

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

### **SOMALIA WAR REPORTS**

## **Fighting Flares Up In Balli Doogle Airbase Outside Mogadishu**

October 13, 2012 Sh.M.Network

**BALLI-DOGLE —**

At least four people are known to have been killed and dozens injured on Saturday in a heavy battle between Somali government soldiers and the Al shabab militants in southern Somalia, reports said.

Witnesses in BILLA-DOGLE town on Afgooye – Baidoa corridor told Shabelle Media Network that the fighting flared up in the early hours on Saturday when Al shabab fighters launched an ambush attack on government military bases in the airport.

“The combat was heavy and raged on for several hours, with both rival sides used heavy artillery fire and mortars in the skirmish, killing 4 combatants on both sides,” a witness said.

The allied forces have last week secured Balli Doogle Airbase, a former air force training base, 104kms from Mogadishu, without facing a resistance by Al shabab. So far, both sides were unavailable to reach for comments.

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## “Somalia’s Al Shabaab Militants On Saturday Afternoon Have Launched An Ambush Heavy Attack On Somali Forces”

October 14, 2012 Sh.M.Network

GUF-GADUD — Somalia’s Al shabaab militants on Saturday afternoon have launched an ambush heavy attack on Somali forces in Bay region in north-western Somalia, reports said.

Al shabaab are said to have ambushed government forces stationed at the village of Gof-gadud located on the outskirts of Baidoa city, some 256 kilometres (159 miles) northwest of the capital Mogadishu, reports said.

A witness said At least two persons, all the combatants, were killed and dozens more injured during the confrontation there.

A roadside bomb blast on Sunday tore through a military vehicle carrying Somali forces in the recently captured city of Shalanbod, located 110 Km south of Mogadishu, reports said.

Eyewitnesses said unconfirmed soldiers were killed and several others have been injured in the attack that was caused improvised explosive devices (IEDs) placed on the ground underneath.

In the aftermath of the explosion, Somali government forces carried out a sweep up operation to find out the perpetrators. No arrests reported.

The town of Shalanbod is a newly taken area that strategically located along the main corridor linking Mogadishu to the south and south-western regions of Somalia.

**Military Resistance In PDF Format?**

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

## MILITARY NEWS

# **Debt Collector Tells Vet “He Was ‘Living Off Social Security While The Rest Of Us Honest Americans Work Our Ass Off. Too Bad; You Should Have Died’” He Garnished Exempt Disability Payments From A 100% Disabled Army Veteran’s Wife**

October 12, 2012 By JAMIE ROSS, Courthouse News Service

PHOENIX –

After garnishing exempt disability payments from a 100% disabled Army veteran's wife, a debt collector told the vet he was “living off social security while the rest of us honest Americans work our ass off. Too bad; you should have died,” the veteran claims in court.

Michael Collier and his wife, Kim, sued Gurstel Chargo, P.A., a Minnesota-based third-party debt collector, in Federal Court.

**Collier suffered spine and head injuries in the Army and was declared 100 percent disabled. He and his wife, a college student, receive disability payments, which are exempt from execution, according to his complaint.**

**Nonetheless, Gurstel garnished Kim’s savings account, and the credit union froze her money, to seek \$6,000 from Michael’s defaulted student loan.**

The Colliers say they “immediately filed an objection and request for hearing.”

At the hearing, Gurstel’s attorney told the court that the frozen funds were indeed exempt, and promised the court that the money would be released “Right away,” according to the complaint.

“The court then issued its ruling finding that the garnished funds were exempt from execution, and entered an order quashing garnishment on the credit union effective that day, May 24, 2012,” the complaint states.



**But in the parking lot, the Gurstel attorney told Michael Collier “he would need to get a lawyer in order to get his money back.”**

Collier says he called Gurstel’s office, and an unidentified paralegal told him he would have to sue to get the money.

**When he said the money was exempt veteran disability payments, “the assistant told Michael, ‘F--- you! Pay us your money! You can’t afford an attorney.**

**“You owe us. I hope your wife divorces your a--. If you would have served our country better you would not be a disabled veteran living off social security while the rest of us honest Americans work our a-- off. Too bad; you should have died.” (Spelling as in complaint.)**

The Colliers seek actual damages, statutory damages, and punitive damages for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, conversion, privacy invasion, and malicious infliction of emotional distress.

They are represented by Floyd Bybee of Chandler.

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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**

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**Comment On The Debate:  
Obama “Excels At Garnering  
Support From Voters By Telling  
Them What They Want To Hear  
While Simultaneously Doing  
Things Those Same People  
Wouldn’t Want Him To Do”**

**“Obama Was Caught Unprepared  
And Unable To State Plainly How He  
Differs From His Opponent, Mostly  
Because He Doesn’t Differ Very  
Much”**

**“Stripped Of A Script He Was Laid Bare  
Before The World, An Empty Suit Devoid  
Of Any Conviction Except The Desire To  
Stay In Office”**

10/10/2012 By Margaret Kimberley, Black Agenda Report [Excerpts]

The first presidential debate between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney proved a very simple fact about human nature. Most people will reveal their truest, most fundamental self when in the midst of a stressful situation.

Both the president and his challenger did just that.

Mitt Romney is an ambitious businessman but not a very good politician. The so-called gaffes and misstatements that have characterized his campaign result from his lack of political acumen but aren't an indication of lack of intelligence or capability.

Romney's greatest success in life was his tenure as CEO of the Bain Capital hedge fund, which is not the best experience to have when campaigning for voters whose lives have been ruined by the actions of corporate America.

The aggressive Romney crammed for the test and found a sureness and confidence by behaving as the CEO in charge of the presidential campaign.

Unlike Romney, Obama is a very good politician.

He excels at garnering support from voters by telling them what they want to hear while simultaneously doing things those same people wouldn't want him to do.

The public and pundits alike were surprised that the president's performance veered between being lackadaisical and flat-footed or strangely discordant with boring anecdotes about his grandparents which didn't even answer the questions being asked.

The president momentarily forgot the source of his popularity. He has spent so much time agreeing with Republicans in private that he forgot he was in public with more than 60 million viewers who were under the naive impression that the two parties are very different.

Obama is the king of trying to reconcile what cannot be reconciled.

He calls this process consensus, but in stark political terms it is nothing but capitulation.

Obama cannot even muster support for Democratic low-hanging fruit like Social Security. When the moderator asked the president if he saw a difference with his opponent on Social Security he happily replied, "You know, I suspect that on Social Security we've got a somewhat similar position."

Those words may have been shocking but they were true. It is Obama who appointed a deficit reduction commission which called for cuts to entitlement programs. Only intransigence from Republicans prevented him from further double dealing with the people he is supposed to be working against.

The president floundered uncharacteristically because he forgot that his audience wasn't made up of the Republicans he is so anxious to please, but voters who dared to think they were going to hear why he should remain in the Oval Office instead of Romney.

As the Democrats have moved ever more to the right and become more dependent upon corporate largesse, Obama and other Democrats have gone along with their program even as they pretend to be an opposition.

Obama was caught unprepared and unable to state plainly how he differs from his opponent, mostly because he doesn't differ very much.

It was Romney who took the supposedly populist, progressive Obama to task for bailing out the banks, calling it the "biggest kiss to New York banks I've ever seen." As with other Romney rejoinders the president was silenced, furiously scribbling notes as he tried to compose himself.

Unfortunately, most Democrats still refuse to admit what happened right before their eyes.

While criticizing the president's debate performance they were not willing to admit that the Obama who stood on stage is the real Obama. Stripped of a script he was laid bare before the world, an empty suit devoid of any conviction except the desire to stay in office.

The debate allowed the previously bumbling Romney to suddenly look capable and gave many people new reason to give him serious consideration. Obama needed only to look presidential in order to live up to expectations but is now facing a serious challenge because he isn't as slick as he thought.

It is unlikely that Barack Obama will allow himself to be bested more than once. No one with a small ego becomes president of the United States. But the question isn't really whether or not he will turn in a better performance. Instead it is whether Democrats will believe their eyes and ears and accept that the real Barack Obama is in fact the man they saw on stage.

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## Ask A Public Affairs Officer (Ep. 2)



October 8, 2012 by Paul, The Duffel Blog

**Ask a Public Affairs Officer is a semi-regular column highlighting the best and brightest in the public relations field: Military PAO's, who specialize in dodging the tough questions, spinning the worst, and hoping for the best.**

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**What do you think about this whole Iranian nuclear thing? Are we going to go in there and wipe them out or what?**

Thank you so much for your interesting question. Nuclear arms are an important weapon in the U.S. arsenal and a great deterrent against further Soviet aggression.

**My wife won't stop nagging me all the time. Then she gets all whiny when I just tell her to go make me a sandwich. I think we might get divorced. What should I do?**

As a married service-member you benefit greatly from the modernized base housing, great shopping and low prices at the Commissary, and wonderful community events put on by the Family Readiness Group. We are very happy and honored to support military families worldwide.

**Who do you think will win the next Presidential election?**

One of the most amazing and fundamental things about our country is that we have free and fair elections and the people decide who will be our elected officials. The military fully supports this concept in the U.S. and throughout the world.

**Are we ever going to get the hell out of Afghanistan?**

The United States is completely dedicated to the mission of helping the great people of Afghanistan under the excellent leadership of President Hamid Karzai.

Under his direction and with our military might, we have freed the people of Afghanistan, brought a stable and corruption-free democracy to the region, and partnered with an important ally in the world.

*If you have a question for the PAO, ask yours by tweeting to @TheDuffelBlog or sending an email to mailbag@duffelblog.com.*

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## **STUCK ON STUPID**

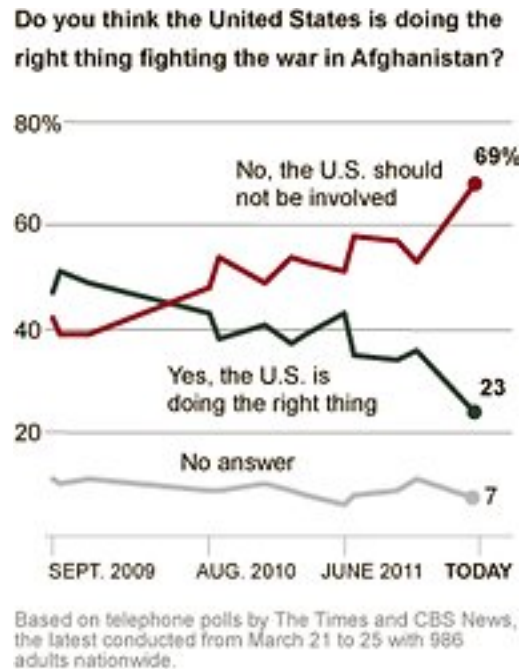
**More Arrogant, Blind, Smug, Stupid  
Elitist Bullshit**

August 21, 2012 By Chris Hedges

We are as ignorant, gullible and naïve as children.

We celebrate fictitious red-white-and-blue virtues while our clandestine armies, which at times achieve short-term objectives but always finally plunge us deeper into violence, have steadily weakened and discredited the nation as well as the purported values for which it stands.

### **And Now, Reality:**



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## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

**“Syrian Security Forces Attack A Farm Belonging To Hamas Movement In The Area Of Drousha”**

**“Targeting Palestinian Refugee Camps In Syria Has Become An Official Policy Adopted By The Syrian Regime”**

ISTANBUL -- Tariq Hamoud, the coordinator of the international working group for Palestinian refugees in Syria, confirmed that the Syrian security forces had attacked a farm belonging to Hamas movement in the area of "Drousha" on the outskirts of Damascus.

Hamoud said that the Syrian security forces had confiscated all the properties of the movement in the farm, including dozens of cars, after members of Hamas had to leave Syria when the situation in Syria worsened.

He expressed to "Quds Press" agency his concern about the increased suffering of the Palestinian refugee camps in Syria, saying: "The information about the launch of a security crackdown against the leaders and members of Hamas in the Palestinian refugee camps in Syria are not precise, but the situation in the camps, in general, is getting worse and is deteriorating."

The Palestinian researcher and activist also pointed to Thursday's shelling of Deraa's refugee camps and to the increasing number of security and military checkpoints and harassment of Palestinians at these checkpoints.

Hamoud noted that targeting Palestinian refugee camps in Syria has become an official policy adopted by the Syrian regime, pointing to the killing of 500 Palestinian martyrs since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis.

He also pointed to the sharp shortage of diesel and gas and to the increasing numbers of Palestinians and Syrians displaced to the camps, which aggravated the humanitarian situation there and increased the suffering of the refugees.

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## **Zionist Psychopaths Attack Palestinians For Picking Their Own Olives On Their Own Land**

12 October 2012, Team Khalil, International Solidarity Movement, West Bank

In two separate incidents on Wednesday 10th and Friday 12th October 2012 settlers from the illegal settlement in Tel Rumeida, Hebron stole olives from two trees belonging to Jawad Abu Eishah and attacked his family whilst they attempted to harvest from their land.

Between 2pm and 4pm on Wednesday 10th October 2012 settlers from the illegal settlement in Tel Rumeida stole olives from two trees nearby.

The settlers carried out this theft in full view of the Israeli soldiers manning the Gilbert checkpoint only about ten meters away at the top of Tel Rumeida hill, who did nothing to stop them.

On Thursday 11th October 2012 three International Solidarity Movement volunteers accompanied Jawad to his land to record any further criminal activity from the illegal settlement as Jawad and his family carried on harvesting their olive trees.

Jawad has permission from the Civilian Military Commander, Rami Ferris, to harvest his olives at this time.

Jawad and the volunteers were stopped at the Gilbert checkpoint by an Israeli soldier who said that Jawad could not harvest any olives today and that no international volunteers could accompany him to his land. Jawad phoned the police and started to make a complaint.

On seeing that he was not going to accept this arbitrary decision the soldier radioed to his commander. After talking on the radio the soldier relented and said he did have permission to harvest his olives after all.

The remainder of Thursday 11th October 2012 passed without incident as the Palestinians harvested their olives.



The Abu Eisheh family harvesting olives.

On Friday 12th October, the Abu Eisheh family went to their land at 9.30am to begin to harvest. Shortly after, a soldier came over and told them to stop – Jawad informed him that he had been allowed by the commanding officer to harvest yesterday.

**No sooner that he had been stopped by the soldier, settlers began to appear from the illegal settlement nearby, “don’t harvest the olives, they are for us” they were heard shouting.**



At this point the soldiers told Jawad that he “must stop now there are settlers.” The family refused to stop as they had been allowed to harvest the previous day. Jawad told the soldiers “if I leave the settlers will steal my olives.”

**At this point a settler pushed over Jawad’s brother Wajdy, who fell to the ground, to which the soldiers did not respond.**

**The Israeli Army then attempted to arrest Yiyah Abu Eisheh (21) for refusing to leave the land, and as the soldiers grabbed him, Noor Abu Eisheh (27) got in the middle, so the soldiers bound both the men’s hands with cable ties and took them to the Gilbert checkpoint nearby.**

**At this point all the family was forcibly removed from their land by the army, and as they reached Gilbert Checkpoint there was around 30 settlers who started to attack the family and a number of Palestinian onlookers.**



Zionist settlers in Tel Rumeida who attacked the Abu Eisheh family.

**Wajdy Abu Eisheh (25) was at this point injured by the settlers and needed medical attention. The army carried him into a vehicle which later transferred him into a Palestinian ambulance where he was taken to Al-Khalil Hospital.**

The Abu Eisheh family has suffered much from the illegal settlement in Tel Rumeida.

Jawad used to run a brass mending and nickel, copper and zinc plating factory from his home employing twenty people. His factory amongst other work repaired parts for cars. The factory was closed by the Israeli Military along with other successful businesses in the area in the year 2000.



An injured Wajdy Abu Eisheh being treated at the scene.

**His workshop has been broken into by settlers who destroyed chemicals and vandalized his electroplating equipment.**

**The Jawad Abu Eisheh property had a wall to protect it from intrusion but after an illegal chicken farm was erected by the settlers next door they bit by bit broke down the wall by removing stones from it.**

**About 18 months ago the settlers completely destroyed the wall which means that any time they want the settlers can come on to the property to vandalize or steal olives.**

**The Jawad Abu Eisheh family have lost their successful business because of the illegal settlement in Tel Rumeida and now they are losing the olives that grow on their land to thieves from the illegal settlement.**

Jawad says:

“They don’t like to see Palestinians working their land. How long must this family pay the cost of Israel’s Illegal settlement program?”

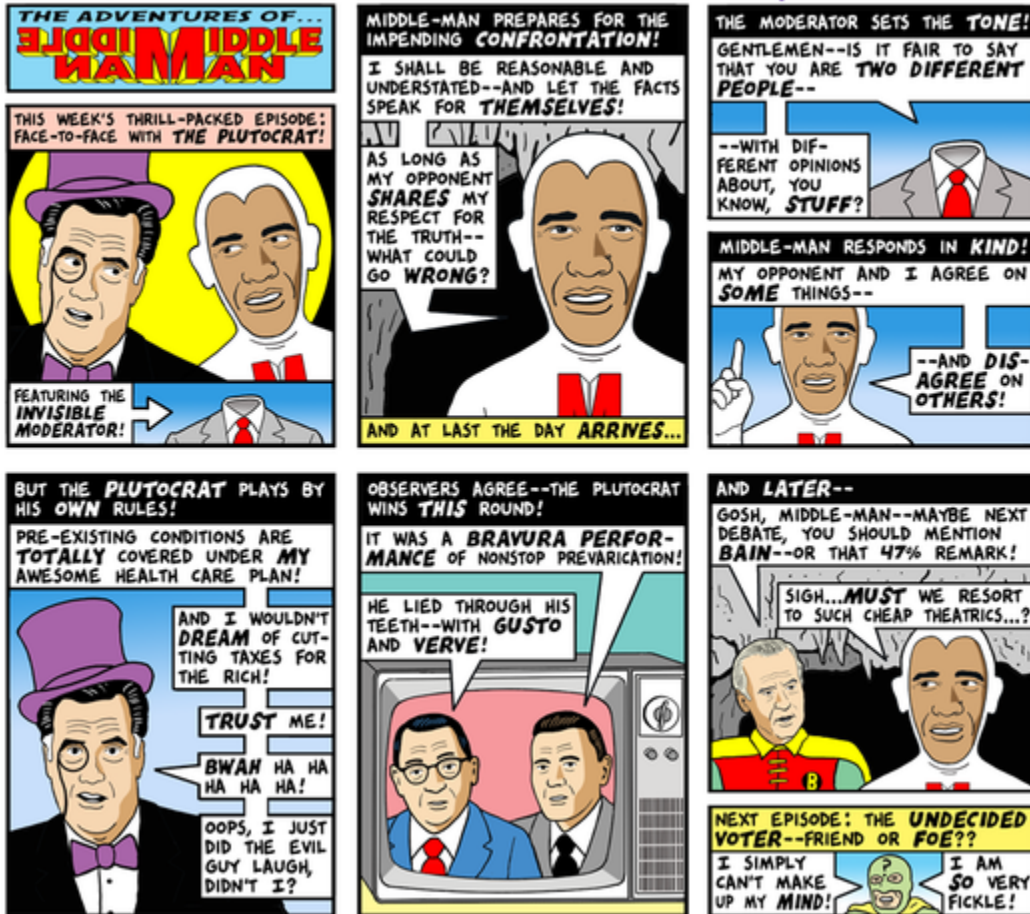
**[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to: [www.rafahtoday.org](http://www.rafahtoday.org) The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves “Israeli.”]**

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# DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



**Obama Regime Agent Executes  
An Unarmed Mother Of Five In  
California:  
“He Was In The Street And Started  
Shooting And Walking Toward The  
Car”**

# **“Munique Isn’t The First To Be Murdered At The Hands Of Law Enforcement In The San Diego Area In Recent Months”**



The shattered windshield left behind after Border Patrol agents executed Valeria Munique Alvarado Tachiquin

**[As has been previously noted, in addition to all the other reasons, an excellent reason to bring all our troops home now is that they can sweep this cowardly filth of our streets once and for all. They are nothing but armed domestic enemies killing us as they please, and are to be treated accordingly by our troops. T]**

October 8, 2012 By Marcos Perez and Miguel Castaneda, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

Family Members and supporters are seeking justice after the shooting of Valeria Munique Alvarado Tachiquin, 32-year-old mother of five, by Border Patrol agents in Chula Vista, Calif., a working-class community five miles north of the border with Mexico.

According to the Border Patrol, undercover agents were in Chula Vista on September 28 attempting to serve an arrest warrant when one of them was struck by Munique’s car.

Border Patrol Deputy Chief Rodney Scott told reporters that the agent was clinging to the front of the moving car and, “Fearing for his life, he discharged his weapon to get the vehicle to stop.”

**But eyewitnesses at the scene have stepped forward in recent days to tell a story that contradicts the Border Patrol’s version of events.**

**“The officer never got struck by the vehicle,” Prince Watson, a local resident, told CBS 8 News.**

**“The vehicle was actually moving in reverse.” Watson told the San Diego Union-Tribune, “She wasn’t speeding or driving erratic at all. I heard the agent say, ‘Stop.’**



**“He was in the street and started shooting and walking toward the car.”**

Monique was shot six to eight times, in the chest, shoulder and arm.

Witnesses recount that one undercover agent rushed to open the driver side door, only to have Munique’s body fall to the ground. They recount how the agents checked her pulse and proceeded to stand by until paramedics arrived and attempted CPR. She was declared dead at the scene.

**Another witness, Ayanna Evans, who lives in an apartment complex near the shooting, told the Union-Tribune that she also saw Munique’s vehicle backing up slowly before the undercover officer approached her and started shooting.**

Munique’s family has been distraught over her death. “We’re just trying to find what the next step is,” said Munique’s brother, Antonio Tachiquin. “We’re trying to piece together what was tore apart that day, and we’re trying to hold it together.”

Within 24 hours of the news of Munique’s death, the family organized a fundraiser in the form of carwash. Community members came out to stand by the family, with a long line of cars lined up to help support Munique’s family. The next day, on October 1, family members and community organizations came together for a vigil to remember Munique’s life and to demand justice.

The family has still heard nothing from authorities about the shooting. According to Antonio:

“The day after the shooting, we came down here just to see the vigil. We heard that some members of the community were putting together this memory for my sister. We came down here, and we spoke with one or two witnesses that were eyewitnesses, and their stories conflict with what the border patrol spokesperson said on the news.

“All we know is exactly what was told over the news. We don’t know any more than the public knows, since authorities haven’t contacted us in anyway.”

At the vigil, Munique’s father, Valentin Tachiquin, spoke emotionally to the community about his love for his daughter, the story of her life, and the community of Chula Vista who embraced him and his family.

**The authorities and the media have tried to portray Munique as a criminal. Her father explained, “This is a political thing--they are going to make my daughter look bad. Her character is not in question. The only question is who killed my daughter?”**

Family members, friends and community activists are demanding that the Border Patrol release the name of the agent involved in the shooting and that his physical appearance be brought to light. “If he has wounds as a result of their story, we want to see that,” said one community activist.

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**Munique isn't the first to be murdered at the hands of law enforcement in the San Diego area in recent months.**

**On June 4, Victor Ortega was shot and killed by San Diego Police Department (SDPD) officer Jonathan McCarthy.**

**According to witnesses who heard Victor's last words, the officer said "Get down," and Victor replied, "Are you kidding me?"**

**While Victor lay on his stomach with his hands partially handcuffed, McCarthy shot Victor in the back of his head from about a foot away.**

An SDPD lieutenant later admitted that Victor in fact didn't have a weapon.

Authorities tried to justify McCarthy's actions by suggesting that Victor was reaching out for McCarthy's second gun.

McCarthy was initially given a paid vacation during the investigation into the shooting, but is now back on patrol.

The family and friends of Victor Ortega continue to lead a campaign for justice.

**In another shooting on August 21, Sheriff's Deputy Luke Berhalter shot Jennifer Orey, following reports that a "suspicious male" was in the area near her home.**

**Officers were searching Orey's backyard unannounced when she came out to see what was happening. Officers ignored her calls asking them to identify themselves. Authorities claim that she startled them, and as a result, she was shot at point-blank range in the breast and arm.**

"She's angry they don't want to be held accountable for what they did...or take responsibility for their actions," James Morgan, Jennifer's brother, told ABC 10 News. "She just wants them to own up to their mistake."

Nor is Munique the only one killed by Border Patrol agents.

**Anastasio Hernandez Rojas was killed in 2010 after some 15 Customs and Border Protection officers beat and Tasered him at the U.S.-Mexico border crossing point in San Diego.**

**Eyewitnesses recorded the beating via cell phone. Rojas' wife and mother have been at the front of a long struggle seeking justice.**

All of these recent cases reveal law enforcement officers acting as if they are judge, jury and executioner. And in a growing number of cases, family members and community members are speaking out.

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# **Oakland California Politicians Shield Heartless Shit-Eating Slime- Fuck Who Executed Unarmed Teen:**

**Officer Masso Came Up To Alan  
While He Was Flat On His Back, Took  
His Gun, Aimed It At Him And Fired  
Three Shots Into Alan's Body "At A  
Time When Alan Had No Weapon In  
His Hand"**

**"Make Sure Killers In Blue Are Forced To  
Pay For Their Crimes"**

[As has been previously noted, in addition to all the other reasons, an excellent reason to bring all our troops home now is that they can sweep this cowardly filth of our streets once and for all. They are nothing but armed domestic enemies killing us as they please, and are to be treated accordingly by our troops. T]

October 10, 2012 Jeff Harland and Alessandro Tinonga, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

"Officer Masso came up to Alan while he was flat on his back, took his gun, aimed it at him and fired three shots into Alan's body at a time when Alan posed absolutely no threat to anyone."

Those were the words of Dan Siegel, an attorney representing the family of Alan Blueford, an African American teenager killed by police in May, as Siegel spoke at a press conference at City Hall.

**After months of pressure from Alan's family members and supporters, Oakland City Council President Larry Reid relinquished a redacted police report to Alan's father during an October 2 meeting.**

**But only days later, as this article was being written, Oakland Senior Deputy District Attorney Kenneth Mifsud announced that the cop who killed Alan, Miguel Masso, would be cleared and no charges would be filed.**

“Officer Masso actually and reasonably believed that his life was in danger after he had made eye contact with Mr. Blueford and that if he did not shoot, he would be killed,” Mifsud wrote, adding that the officer went into “survival mode.”

That’s no answer at all for Alan Blueford’s family and friends, who are left to wonder why his life is being judged unworthy of protection from an out-of-control cop.

They are vowing to continue their fight for justice.

### **“The Police Report Completely Demolishes The False Story That Has Been Perpetuated By The Oakland Police, City Council And The Media: That Alan Was Shot During A Gun Battle”**

On October 2, for the second time in two weeks, the Blueford family, along with supporters, demanded answers about the murder of their son from Oakland City Council members.

Again, demonstrators had to shut down the council’s planned agenda and directly challenge council members’ requests for yet more patience and time.

Over 50 people, comprising the Blueford family, activists and members of Oakland’s interfaith community, marched from the district attorney’s office to City Hall. Outside of the D.A.’s office, family members spoke briefly, demanding the original police report and a criminal investigation of Masso.

At the steps of City Hall, the family was met by over 100 supporters wearing “Justice 4 Alan” T-shirts, and carrying signs and banners.

For reasons never disclosed by council members and in violation of open meeting laws, the chamber’s upstairs balcony was closed to the public. In addition, claiming “fire safety precautions,” standing was prohibited during the session--reducing the number of supporters allowed inside the chamber.

Many people who had signed up to speak during the open forum were not allowed inside, even though their names had been called.

Supporters inside the chamber called for those outside to be let in, unnerving the council members, who then sent aides outside to placate the protesters, promising that those on the list would be heard.

Unfortunately for council members, these tactics to limit the public’s participation and support for the Blueford’s case failed, and protesters grew increasingly louder and more disruptive.

Chants of “Let us in our City Hall,” “No justice, no peace” and “Justice for Alan Blueford” filled City Hall.

**During the open forum, Alan’s cousin Tiffany Mantague questioned the city’s decision to hire Masso, who had previously resigned from the New York Police**



**Department after claims were filed against him for macing and assaulting a handcuffed suspect in a holding cell.**

**“Who did his background check? Who let it slip through the cracks that he already had a red flag, and he shouldn’t have been serving our community?” she said.**

Council member Desley Brooks warned the family that their supporters gathered in the chamber had misguided them. “Don’t just come every night and yell, because that doesn’t change anything,” Brooks said. “Come and work with us to change the policies and procedures...If you allow these people who come here not because of your son, but to continue to just want to shut down a meeting, then you accomplish nothing.”

Council members’ attempts to move the agenda forward and ignore the family where met with jeers and loud chanting from supporters.

**As the family’s final speaker was midway through his speech, Council President Larry Reid pulled from his desk a redacted police report, handing it to the Bluefords’ representatives.**

**After finally receiving the report, the Blueford family, the Justice for Alan Blueford coalition and their supporters left the city chambers together. As the family and protestors left City Hall, they chanted, “You redact, we’ll be back!”**

The police report, which has been posted online, completely demolishes the false story that has been perpetuated by the Oakland police, City Council and the media: that Alan was shot during a gun battle.

Instead, what took place was the unjustified murder of a young Black man.

According to the report, on May 5, Masso rolled up on Alan and his friends, who were waiting for a ride. When Alan took off running, Masso pursued him, and the chase led to the 9200 block in East Oakland.

**Alan then tripped on a curb, banged onto a fence and fell on his back. At that point, several witnesses say Officer Masso came up and shot Alan three times while he was lying on his back.**

Some witnesses said that after being shot, Alan cried out, “Why did you shoot? I didn’t do anything.”

While Alan lay on his back bleeding, Masso put out a call for assistance on the police radio and stated that a gun battle had taken place.

**When other officers arrived on the scene, Masso was given medical attention and sent to the hospital. Alan was left on the ground, and most likely died on the scene, as Highland Hospital never reported his arrival, contrary to the claims of the Oakland police.**

**In the week following the last City Council protest, a “leak” to the press claimed that Alan’s fingerprints were found on a gun police say they found 20 feet away from where he was killed.**

**However, the timing and details of the finding raises many questions. “According to the police report, Alan’s left thumbprint was found on an ammunition clip,” said Dan Siegel.**

**“The pictures from the report show the clip was not in the gun, we don’t know who put it there, we don’t know a lot about it.”**

**He added, “I want to know about that gun--what it is, where did it come from. That part was conveniently blacked out in the police report.”**

**Attorney Walter Riley, who also represents the Blueford family, said: “There is no clear forensic report that clearly shows that those were Alan’s fingerprints. We have to analyze it. There are other fingerprints on the gun...Alan is eliminated from all other prints on that weapon.”**

And none of the evidence overrides the fact that witnesses saw Alan shot by Officer Masso while he was on the ground, with no weapon in his hand.

**The coroner’s report showed that Alan did not have gunpowder on his hands, proving that he did not engage in a gun battle, as Masso had reported.**

**The only danger to Masso was his own weapon--it has been revealed that he shot himself.**

**“The police offer shot without cause while (Alan) was on the ground,” said Walter Riley. “The law is clear. That is murder.”**

The release of the police report to the Blueford family, though redacted, is a victory for the movement. Many questions about the night of Alan’s death remain unanswered, however.

“They didn’t want to hand over that report willingly,” Alan’s mother, Jeralynn Blueford, said.

“They were wanting us out of there. When Larry Reid finally handed over the report, (Police Chief) Howard Jordan was sending out tweets on his blackberry announcing they released the report--to pretend they did us a favor.”

**For five months, the city of Oakland has stalled in handing over reports and evidence to the Blueford family when they demanded it.**

**Members of the City Council attempted to placate the family and urge them to be patient--before trying to physically shut them and their supporters out of the City Council.**

The Blueford family has a long way to go to get justice for their son, especially with the announcement that Masso will not face any criminal charges.

However, support for the Justice for Alan Blueford Coalition continues to grow--and activists are vowing to keep the pressure on to make sure that the killers in blue are forced to pay for their crimes.

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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