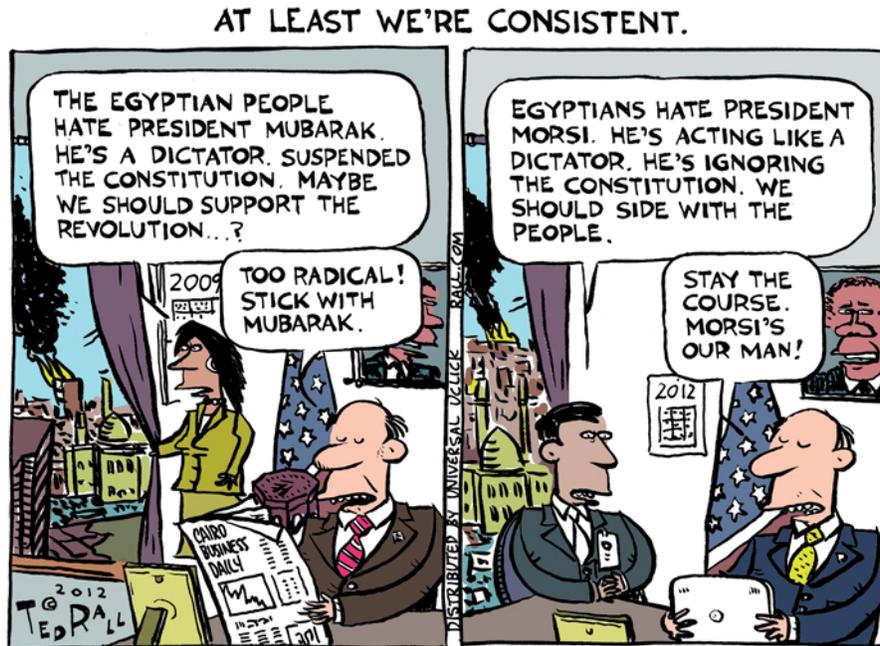


Military Resistance 10L6



**Scum In Blue Really Do Hate
Our Liberties:
National Guard Member Arrested
For Asking Questions While
Filming Cops During A Traffic
Stop:
“The First Circuit Court Of Appeals
Ruled Last Year That ‘The Filming Of
Government Officials While On Duty Is
Protected By The First Amendment’”**

“Police Continue To Wrongly Arrest Citizens For Doing So”

November 26, 2012 by Paul Joseph Watson, Infowars.com

A U.S. Army serviceman [National Guard member] was arrested by Georgia police for “obstruction of law enforcement” despite the fact that his crime amounted to nothing more than asking questions while filming cops during a traffic stop.

19-year-old Andrew Ogiba, a two year member of the U.S. Army [National Guard member], was charged, arrested and hauled off to jail for little more than narrating into his camera and asking a police officer questions during the incident in McCrae, Georgia, which began when Ogiba was stopped and given a citation for loud music.

The video of the incident shows Ogiba talking to his camera about how he had already been fined for loud music after a previous citation, but that he believed the noise citation was unconstitutional after speaking with the ACLU.

After Ogiba pulled into the empty parking lot of a church, an officer wrote up the citation before approaching Ogiba’s vehicle.

Conducting himself with the officer politely, Ogiba asks the cop, officer B. Wyatt, if he was able to determine if the noise violation had broken the law by using a measuring device. Wyatt refuses to answer, merely claiming that the music could be heard from 200-300 yards away.

Ogiba continues to co-operate with Wyatt, signs the citation and then indicates that he will fight the issue in court.

Wyatt is clearly aware that Ogiba is recording the exchange and makes no issue of the **fact. Wyatt then says “have a nice day,” to which Ogiba responds “OK, you too,” and the officer begins to walk away from his car as Ogiba continues to narrate to his camera, pointing out that Wyatt refused to answer his questions about the noise citation.**

Wyatt then stops suddenly and states, “Excuse me, sir,” before walking back towards Ogiba’s car.

“I was talking to my camera,” Ogiba responds. “I said you refused to answer any of my questions and you can do that, that’s fine.”

Wyatt orders Ogiba to leave the car park. Ogiba complies, putting on his seatbelt and begins to start up his car and leave.

However, when Ogiba asks whether the church car park is open to the public as well as politely asking for the officer’s name, Wyatt orders Ogiba to exit the vehicle and tells him that, “It’s time to lock you up for obstruction of law enforcement.”

Apparently, asking questions of a police officer and/or filming them now amounts to “obstruction of law enforcement” and is an arrestable offense.

Ogiba spent the next 2 and a half hours in jail and was forced to pay a \$498 bail charge on top of a \$150 car impound charge. Ogiba plans to file a lawsuit against the state of Georgia for unreasonable arrest.

“I’ve already emailed the ACLU and will be talking to a lawyer tomorrow,” he said in a telephone interview with Photography is Not a Crime.

Despite the fact that the First Circuit Court of Appeals ruled last year that “The filming of government officials while on duty is protected by the First Amendment,” police continue to wrongly arrest citizens for doing so.

Despite innumerable cases where charges have been dropped against citizens arrested for filming police, and in some cases authorities being forced to pay out cash settlements, the myth that it is illegal to film police officers still continues to proliferate, including apparently amongst police officers themselves who continue to arrest people for crimes that don’t exist.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Monday: Nationality Not Announced

December 10, 2012 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an improvised explosive device attack in southern Afghanistan today.

DoD Identifies Navy Casualty

December 10, 2012 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 962-12

Petty Officer 1st Class Nicolas D. Checque, 28, of Monroeville, Pa., died of combat related injuries suffered Dec. 8, while supporting operations near Kabul, Afghanistan. Checque was assigned to an East Coast-based Naval Special Warfare unit.

U.S. Navy SEAL Killed In Afghan Rescue Mission



Navy Seal Nicolas D. Checque. U.S. Navy

December 10, 2012 VOA News & By Jim Miklaszewski, NBC News

Sunday's rescue of an American doctor officials say was kidnapped in Afghanistan by the Taliban cost a U.S. service member his life.

The Pentagon on Monday identified the U.S. Navy SEAL who was killed in the rescue of an American doctor in Afghanistan as a highly-decorated 10-year veteran from Pennsylvania.

Twenty-eight-year-old Petty Officer 1st Class Nicolas D. Checque, of Monroeville, died Sunday of combat-related injuries sustained while supporting operations in Afghanistan, the Pentagon said in a release.

Checque was assigned to an East Coast-based Naval Special Warfare command, the statement said. Checque had been awarded the Bronze Star, among many other commendations, the release said.

A NATO spokesman on Monday discussed the rescue of Dr. Dilip Joseph from what he described as kidnapers "heavily armed" with assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

Bomb Kills Provincial Afghan Police Chief



The interior of a car belonging to the chief of police of Nimroz province, that was hit by a roadside bomb, in the Hadraskan district of Herat province December 10, 2012. The roadside bomb killed the police chief General Mohammad Musa Rasoli on Monday, a police official said. Credit: Reuters/ Mohammad Shoib

Dec 10, 2012 by Sharafuddin Sharafyar, Reuters

A roadside bomb killed the police chief of Afghanistan's western Nimroz province on Monday, a police official said.

General Mohammad Musa Rasoli's vehicle was struck by the bomb as he was heading to work, the official said.

Last week, a bomber posing as a peace messenger wounded Afghanistan's intelligence chief, Asadullah Khalid, in the capital Kabul, dealing a blow to the nascent reconciliation process.

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

Circling The Drain In Kandahar:

“It Was Like A Cheech And Chong Concert”

December 9, 2012 By David S. Cloud, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts]

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Fifteen U.S. soldiers huddle in a circle. A blue Toyota packed with explosives has been reported somewhere in the city. The troops bow their heads and clasp hands.

Michaelis [Lt. Col. Patrick Michaelis] and his men climb into armored vehicles, fasten their helmets and drive into the crowded streets, alert for a blue Toyota.

The U.S. reinforcements left last summer, and Afghan police in baggy green uniforms took over lead responsibility for security.

But some U.S. troops say hunkering down just doesn't feel right.

Although insurgent attacks have fallen since last year, the idea of letting the Afghans take the lead often feels more like abandonment than training.

On Sept. 14, Lt. Faruq Mirwaz, a police commander on the west side, was driving along Highway 1, the main paved road through the city, when two remote-controlled bombs exploded under his pickup.

The blast peppered Mirwaz with shrapnel and left him bleeding from the neck by the side of the road.

At a small U.S. outpost nearby, Capt. Terron Wharton heard the boom before receiving an urgent call from Mirwaz. He and several men jumped in their armored vehicles to help.

But when they radioed Michaelis to say they were leaving the base, he told them to halt.

The Afghans need to learn how to handle these attacks on their own, Michaelis said.

After an hour of pleading, Wharton was finally permitted to go.

By then, Afghan police had taken Mirwaz to a hospital. His injuries were too severe for him to return to duty.

“It felt like we left our partners out there,” Wharton said. “I gave a man my word I would come to his aid, and I couldn't keep it. That was one of hardest things I've had to do.”

A day later, another roadside bomb attack killed Mirwaz's deputy.

Four days later, a buried bomb killed the deputy in a neighboring district. Two more of Mirwaz's officers were lost in October.

Lt. Col. Terry Nihart, head of the U.S. training effort in Kandahar, was in a second-floor office in the Kandahar police headquarters last July when a huge explosion shattered the windows, slicing his face with glass shards and knocking him unconscious.

Insurgents had blown a hole in the concrete wall outside and were pouring into the compound, firing rifles and tossing grenades. When he awoke, Nihart chambered a round in his pistol, the only weapon at hand, and waited anxiously with others in the office as the firefight raged outside.

They heard an insurgent come up the stairs, and feared he would throw a grenade into their office.

“Unfortunately, we were waiting to die,” Nihart recalled.

They survived because another American shot the insurgent in the stairwell.

In all, six Afghans were killed and five Americans were wounded in the five-hour battle.

Afterward, the police celebrated by smoking hashish, the sweet-smelling aroma wafting across the compound.

“It was like a Cheech and Chong concert,” Nihart said.

Michaelis also gave orders to stop giving gasoline to Afghan police, despite their constant complaints that they cannot patrol without fuel.

The gas often ended up for sale on Highway 1, a source of illicit cash for Afghan officers.

Not long ago, he learned a junior lieutenant had violated his orders and given a tankful to an Afghan policeman, who had been refusing to leave the base unless he was given fuel.

Michaelis transferred the combat officer to a headquarters staff job as punishment.

In Kabul, Capital Of Afghanistan, After 11 Years Of War:

**This Is What Is Necessary For
Short Drives In The Immediate
Area:
“A Typical Mission For Us Is Days Of
Prep Work, Intelligence And Route
Assessments And Customer Unit
Coordination”
[Ignore The Happy Talk Below And Think
About That]**

December 9, 2012 By STEVE RANSON, Nevada Appeal

KABUL —

Some doubt from higher headquarters existed if tonight's convoy (Nov. 21) would roll through Kabul from Camp Phoenix to Camp Eggers, a small NATO camp near the U.S. Embassy and the presidential palace.

Earlier in the day, a suicide bomber detonated his vest, killing two Afghanistan guards and himself before stunned onlookers.

The embassy area was no stranger to the danger that lurks in the nerve center of Kabul due to a situation in early September that produced similar deadly results.

Since July, the Nevada Army National Guard's 593rd Transportation Company has been conducting convoys throughout Regional Command-Capital, the area that encompasses all of Kabul and its surrounding villages. All told, the 593rd completed more than 100 successful convoys before I rode on one into Kabul with Capt. Curtis Kolvet, commander of the 593rd, a 21-year-old driver from Boulder City and a 19-year-old gunner from Starr Valley, a rich agricultural area midway between Elko and Wells in northeastern Nevada.

Preparation for our early evening convoy started the day before with safety briefings and followed up on the day of the trip with more updated reports.

As convoy commander, 30-year-old 2nd Lt. Yelena Yatskikh reviewed the reports and said the routes into Kabul to the embassy appeared safe, as did the route to two other bases east of Kabul that required personnel and supplies.

Yatskikh initiated the final preparation for the convoy hours before departure time. Civilian passengers destined for one of the bases arrived with their luggage and checked in.

Crews also arrived and began their final inspection on the MRAPs or Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, distinguished by their weight and size.

The lead MRAP in the convoy, the MATV, carries up to four passengers, while the RG33 holds eight passengers and the MAXXPRO, the taller MRAP, seats between four and six passengers.

The MRAP's heavy construction is designed to withstand an IED[†] (Improvised Explosive Device).

Kolvet said the run into Kabul would be a typical mission for the 593rd that his crews have accomplished many times.

“A typical mission for us is days of prep work, intelligence and route assessments and customer unit coordination,” explained Kolvet.

“Operating in an urban environment of 5 million people in large tactical vehicles is a difficult challenge that our drivers make seem easy every day. They maneuver roads and routes that are designed for small civilian cars in unarmored vehicles the size of semi trucks, and our guys and gals do it as well as anyone in the country.”

Departure time grew closer, and the crew on every MRAP began to don their body armor and Kevlar helmets.

I slipped 30 pounds of body armor over my head and adjusted the straps before placing the helmet on my head.

I then stuffed my camera gear into the passenger's back seat area that contained as much legroom as my economy-class flight accommodations between San Francisco and Frankfurt.

Five minutes remained before the convoy left Phoenix. All of us climbed into the MATV, snapped on the seat and harness belts and prepared for departure.

Lined up in single file, the MRAPs idled, waiting for Yatskikh to issue the command to roll out of Phoenix onto one of the major highways coming into Kabul.

It was dusk, and with a moonless sky the night grew very dark, very quickly.

Driver Spc. Julia Rodriguez may be one of the shortest drivers in the convoy, but the repetition of driving Kabul's narrow streets has made her a conscientious, yet aggressive driver.

Rodriguez said she likes being a driver and in control of the vehicle, especially when she is the lead vehicle. The southern Nevada soldier likes to tell people that she enjoys driving because she is a small female in control of a large MRAP.

That confidence is not wasted on Kolvet.

“You cannot afford to be timid driving on the streets in Kabul ... you have to be aggressive yet mindful of civilian traffic and pedestrians while maintaining control of the roads and standoff distances to ensure the safety of the convoy and the Afghan drivers on the road with you,” Kolvet said. “What impresses me the most is how much we entrust and rely on very young soldiers in their late teens and early 20s to execute such difficult tasks on a daily basis, and how well they do it.”

“I trust each and every one of them to know their job and execute competently and with knowledgeable deliberation, and they do just that time after time,” Kolvet said. “They exhibit a maturity and focus well beyond their years which I attribute not just to them but the great leadership they’ve received from the company’s more experienced noncommissioned officers.”

Kolvet rode shotgun in the passenger seat, advising Rodriguez of oncoming vehicles or unusual circumstances.

While Rodriguez maneuvered the multi-ton vehicle toward an outer base, Spc. David “Chance” Iveson clutched his machine gun through the roof portal and rotated from side to side, keeping a vigilant eye on the people and vehicles.

“I enjoy being a gunner. I am focused and I have a job to do,” said Iveson.

After we completed two stops, the convoy returned to Camp Phoenix to pick up passengers for the run to Eggers, a trip that depending on traffic could take as long as 30 minutes each way.

Kabul’s pulse pounded that night — as did ours — with grocery stores still open, people sipping tea at patio cafes and vendors hawking their wares, most notably fruits and vegetables.

Each person in the MATV, including me, focused on the activity outside the vehicle during our trip to the embassy.

Once we arrived and unloaded our passengers, we returned to Camp Phoenix.

Mission accomplished in less than four hours.

“The drive around Kabul was a quick and efficient movement and went very well,” Kolvet said “It was a characteristic run that we’re used to seeing with that type of mission. This comes through good training and the experience of doing it a couple of hundred times and often times at night with limited visibility.

“With that comes confidence, and in regards to specialist Rodriguez, that’s what you saw, confidence in her abilities behind the wheel and knowing she has the aid of her crew members like Spc. Iveson to assist in traversing difficult urban terrain and choke points.”

Rodriguez said she was comfortable with both Kolvet and me in the vehicle.

“I felt confident and honored that you were in my vehicle,” she said. “It meant that you had some trust in my abilities as a driver because you could have been in any vehicle, and you agreed to ride with me as the driver around Kabul.”

With the night mission done, Rodriguez said she prefers night missions because the trucks are more concealed and also there is not as much traffic. She sometimes gets nervous when there is excessive traffic because most of the local vehicles are very small compared to the MRAPs. Also, Rodriguez said she is afraid “a child may run out into the street and get run over” because they seem to be fearless around all of the vehicles.

“Insurgents Continue To Plant More Than 1,000 Bombs Per Month”

Dec 10, 2012 Tom Vanden Brook - USA Today [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — Fortified underwear is in high demand among troops in Afghanistan where any step on the battlefield can trigger a buried bomb that can blow off legs, destroy genitals and tear into their abdomens.

The Pentagon is rushing more heavy silk underwear, along with protective cups and strapped-on outergear, to ensure that soldiers and Marines in the field have six pairs of the equipment. The need is acute because insurgents continue to plant more than 1,000 bombs per month and troops on foot lack the protection of armored vehicles.

MILITARY NEWS

**Murderous Fools? Or Corrupt Traitors At Work?
Pentagon Filth Clinging To Useless IED Detection System:
They Refuse To Supply Troops With Effective Alternate System Soldiers Beg For And Desperately Need;**

How Many Troops Have They Killed?

The task force asked Army headquarters in Washington for permission to buy Palantir, which was gaining fame as a conduit for finding buried improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

The Army said “no” to Palantir and, instead, noted that it was sending more common ground system servers — the same ones that special warriors said did not work.

December 2 By Rowan Scarborough, The Washington Times [Excerpts]

The Pentagon’s top weapons tester has given a failing grade to the Army’s premier battlefield intelligence processor, which troops in Afghanistan have criticized as being too slow and unreliable in sifting data to find the enemy.

A Nov. 1 memo from the Defense Department’s Operational Test and Evaluation office calls an updated version of the \$2.5 billion Defense Common Ground System “not operationally effective, not operationally suitable and not operationally survivable against cyber threats,” according to a copy obtained by The Washington Times.

The across-the-board indictment is a blow to the Army’s most cherished data-collection and analysis system just as appropriators in Congress are taking a closer look at Pentagon expenditures.

What’s more, the common ground system faces more competition from non-Army commercial products, such as one called Palantir, that can outperform it in mining data to identify targets, a process called “link analysis.”

The Times has reported extensively on the Palantir and common ground systems, which military intelligence analysts use to determine the probable location of roadside bombs, the No. 1 killer of U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

The Nov. 1 internal memo, sent to Frank Kendall, undersecretary of defense for acquisition, said the Army is proposing a solution to address the common ground system’s operational failure: Eliminate the software “enclave” that handles sensitive classified data.

According to the memo, the Army is asking Mr. Kendall to approve a scaled-back version for deployment to troops.

Two members of Congress are telling Mr. Kendall that permitting a scaled-back version of the Defense Common Ground System (DCGS) to be deployed is “deeply troubling.”

In a Nov. 28 letter, Reps. Duncan Hunter, California Republican and a member of the House Armed Services Committee, and James P. Moran, Virginia Democrat and a member of the House Appropriations subcommittee on defense, said a restricted system “represents yet another setback for an already troubled program.”

“The very people it was designed for, the warfighters, are requesting commercial off-the-shelf software in lieu of DCGS to accomplish their mission,” the congressmen wrote.

“Specifically, by our count, at least 13 deploying Army units have requested commercial off-the-shelf solutions in place of DCGS, indicating that DCGS has so far failed to meet our warfighters’ in-theater needs.”

The Pentagon’s operational test found that classified data within the common ground system could not be passed down from division level to the brigade.

“The sheer effort of moving data across those boundaries led to substantial delays and other problems,” the statement says.

“Clearly (the new version) is less capable,” the statement says. Fielding a scaled-back processor “will provide users capabilities at least as good as those provided by the currently fielded versions.”

Mr. Hunter, and critics in the field, say that justification rings hollow because it is the current version that troops generally pan.

Mr. Hunter and Mr. Moran are not alone.

The Senate Armed Services Committee report for fiscal 2013 defense spending criticizes the Army for refusing to incorporate commercially available software into the common ground system. The top intelligence officer in Afghanistan in 2010 made such a request, the report said.

The experience of an Army commando unit in Afghanistan in 2011 is an example of soldiers requesting Palantir, an off-the-shelf commercial data analysis system that costs far less than the Defense Common Ground System.

Special operations Task Force 10, as it was then called, had become fed up with the common ground system, which was failing in its link analysis to identify insurgents.

“The current system does not allow them to efficiently request and receive critical real-time intelligence,” said one of several memos that were sent by U.S. commandos to Army headquarters and obtained by The Times.

The task force asked Army headquarters in Washington for permission to buy Palantir, which was gaining fame as a conduit for finding buried improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

The Army said “no” to Palantir and, instead, noted that it was sending more common ground system servers — the same ones that special warriors said did not work.

“This is just another instance of ground forces asking for a specific technology to support their mission and getting their request denied because there’s competing

technology that's significantly more expensive and far-less effective," said Mr. Hunter, who served in Iraq and Afghanistan as a Marine Corps officer.

Internal memos obtained by The Times in recent months show that Army soldiers are not the only ones requesting Palantir.

A Marine general wrote that Palantir should be included in the annual defense budget. It can be bought now only as a special request item. U.S. Special Operations Command is trying to make Palantir standard issue to its units fighting terrorists around the world.

In spring 2011, Task Force 10, a combined unit of U.S. and allied troops, was training specialized Afghan units in counterterrorism, then going out on missions to kill the enemy.

The paper trail rings of desperation.

"TF-10's current battlefield visibility and information platform system limits their ability to see and efficiently share battlefield information in real-time," said a March 2011 message from the unit's chief of staff.

"The Palantir system will significantly and efficiently increase TF-10's situational awareness and intelligence sharing capabilities."

A month later, the chief of staff for all U.S. forces in Afghanistan added his endorsement: "The current system does not allow (Task Force 10) to efficiently request and receive critical real time intelligence," he wrote.

At the Pentagon, Army procurement officials were not impressed.

That May, the Army wrote back to Task Force 10 that it "validates the requirement for secure information sharing across organizational boundaries and in real-time."

But the message added that the Army "returns the request for Palantir without action."

It said the common ground system program manager was sending new software to Afghanistan.

Mr. Hunter told The Times: "This is even one of the more egregious cases, with the Army officially acknowledging the need for the capability, but then turning down the request without explanation and instead sending servers that just sat in storage and collected dust."

Other units in Afghanistan over the past three years have bypassed the Army hierarchy and appealed directly to Pentagon offices that can approve buying Palantir.

In a powerful endorsement of Palantir, the director of intelligence for U.S. Special Operations Command sent a memo in August to a special Pentagon procurement office seeking permission to buy Lighthouse, a mobile data collector on the battlefield, and link it with Palantir.

Using the parlance of intelligence professionals, the memo said: “Lighthouse and Palantir users are equipped to exploit structured data using link analysis, data mining” and other techniques.

It said Special Operations Command planned to deploy the Lighthouse-Palantir hookup in ongoing operations in Afghanistan, the Philippines, the Horn of Africa, trans-Saharan Africa, and Central and South America.

Battle Plan

December 2 By Carol Morello, The Washington Post [Excerpt]

The commander of a -Damascus-based militia with about 15 members said its fighters had assassinated an air force officer last week and are prepared to kill more in an effort to drain the regime’s air power.

“We waited for him in the street and shot him,” said the commander, who used the nom de guerre Abu Omar al-Shami during an interview in Turkey, where he said he had come to raise money to buy silencers for the militia’s pistols.

In Damascus, “Insurgents Have Been Eating Away At The Assad Regime For Months” “Many Of The Bases Recently Taken By The Insurgents, Particularly Around Damascus, Do Not Look As Though They Were Vigorously Defended”

November 29, 2012 by James Miller, EAWorldView [Excerpts]

The insurgency has many dimensions, but --- to oversimplify it --- two are notable.

The first is what we see in Deir Ez Zor or Aleppo or Idlib Province --- a semi-functional military apparatus, either coordinated at the brigade level or on a larger scale. These units seek military victories, destroying the regime’s resources and capturing bases, equipment, and territory.

This element to the Free Syrian Army has been building for many months, and has not lost a battle since September. It has been advancing steadily since June; however, in

recent weeks, this force has surged in a series of one-sided victories from Damascus to Aleppo, from al Raqqah to Deir ez Zor, and beyond.

But in Damascus in particular there has been a second dimension: while there is no place for a traditional military to hide, insurgents have been eating away at the Assad regime for months.

Despite efforts to put them down, opposition fighters have been able to hit regime targets and then melt away into the civilian population operating very much like insurgents in Iraq or South Vietnam.

This is the imminent threat.

While the military wing of the insurgency is creeping forward, slowly encircling the capital, the lurking enemy lies in many neighborhoods across the city and its suburbs.

It is this two-pronged threat that has toppled a half dozen bases around Damascus since the beginning of October.

Now the target is the airport: if that is closed, all sense of normalcy will be gone.

Over the last several nights, there have been insurgent attempts to take it. Now it appears that the challenge may be serious enough to close the airport --- maybe for good. The news has already shaken the confidence of the international airlines, hesitant to send their people and planes into what looks like a warzone.

Elements of the Syrian opposition military are closing a noose around the cities of Idlib, Deir Ez Zor, and Aleppo.

Once these are surrounded, or possibly captured, Al Raqqah and Hassakah in the north, and Hama in the west, will be the new targets.

The insurgents are making a play for Daraa, and are attempting to build strength around Damascus while reducing Assad's military advantage.

Many of the bases recently taken by the insurgents, particularly around Damascus, do not look as though they were vigorously defended, indicating that morale is the lowest it has been.

War Profiteer Found Guilty Of Poisoning Soldiers In Iraq Demands Taxpayers Pay The Soldiers' Injuries:

“KBR Also Demands That The Government Pay More Than \$15 Million In Its Attorneys’ Fees”

“A Jury Found The Company Guilty Of Negligence For Illnesses The Soldiers Who Guarded Qarmat Ali”

Nov 27, 2012 By Nigel Duara - The Associated Press [Excerpts]

PORTLAND, Ore. — An Iraq war contractor that lost an \$85 million verdict to a group of sickened Oregon soldiers has filed a lawsuit seeking to force the federal government to pay the soldiers’ damages.

In early November, 12 Oregon National Guard soldiers won the verdict against Kellogg Brown and Root, an engineering and construction firm that helped lead the reconstruction work in post-war Iraq.

The soldiers were exposed to a toxin while guarding an Iraqi water plant.

In the new lawsuit, KBR also demands that the government pay more than \$15 million in its attorneys’ fees.

At the heart of the suit is a so-called indemnification clause that KBR alleges it agreed to with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in March 2003. The clause was designed to protect KBR against “unusually hazardous risks” in its work in Iraq.

In a Nov. 16 filing in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, KBR argues the clause makes the government responsible for the results of its actions in Iraq, including the Oregon verdict.

“Based upon an erroneous legal and factual analysis of the terms of the indemnification agreement, (the Army Corps) has refused to indemnify (KBR) for the costs of defending against the various third-party lawsuits,” KBR attorneys wrote, “and has refused to participate or assume direct responsibility in defending (KBR) in the underlying tort litigations.”

KBR said in the suit that it had no insurance to cover its wartime work, and the government’s refusal to involve itself in lawsuits constitutes a breach of the indemnification agreement.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers spokesman declined to comment on Tuesday, citing the ongoing litigation.

At least another 130 suits are pending from soldiers in England, Texas, Indiana and West Virginia, as well as other Oregon soldiers who were present at the Iraqi water plant, called Qarmat Ali.

A jury found the company guilty of negligence for illnesses the soldiers who guarded Qarmat Ali, an oilfield water plant.

The three-week trial ended after just two days of deliberation by the jury. The suit was the first concerning soldiers' exposure to a toxin the plant.

The soldiers said they suffer from respiratory ailments after their exposure to sodium dichromate, and they fear that a carcinogen

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

Wars throughout history have been waged for conquest and plunder and it is the working class who fights all the battles, the working class who makes the supreme sacrifices, the working class who freely sheds their blood and furnishes their corpses, and it is they who have never yet had a voice - in either declaring war or making peace. It is the ruling class that invariably does both. They alone declare war.

They are continually talking about patriotic duty. It is not their patriotic duty but your patriotic duty that they are concerned about. Their patriotic duty never takes them to the firing line or chucks them into the trenches.

-- Eugene V. Debs



DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?

Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly.

Whether in Afghanistan or at a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the war and economic injustice, inside the armed services and at home.

Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657.

Mandatory Christmas Party Is 'Completely Voluntary', Says Sergeant Major



5 December 2012 by Tony, The Duffle Blog

US ARMY GARRISON WEISBADEN, GERMANY – Sources confirmed today that the upcoming mandatory Christmas party for the 66th Intelligence Brigade is “completely voluntary”, according to statements made by the Command Sergeant Major.

“Hey listen gentlemen, it’s totally up to you to attend,” said CSM Marc A. Scott during the course of an hour-long briefing. “We want people there that actually want to be there and have fun.”

Scott was eager to show his understanding that the holidays were a time for family and soldiers shouldn’t be coerced into attending parties.

“That being said, we’ll be having a quick accountability formation in front of Vapiano at 1925,” he said. “Yes, I know this might be a bit of inconvenience for an accountability formation being at the venue and not on post, but it’s still expected.”

The grizzled soldier also made other important announcements during his talk.

“Also, don’t forget, there’s a mandatory recall for clean up detail at 2130. You might want to show up ten minutes early for that. Sober. Sergeant Major doesn’t want any DUIs now. You all know the Polizei doesn’t play.

“The MPs and Sergeant Major don’t either. FYI, those attending will be given a four-day. Those not attending will have a room inspection with full field lay out. That’s for your own good, because I care about not only your hygiene, but your preparedness for the field. Don’t think Sergeant Major won’t issue TA-50 for that, because I will.”

A telltale snicker from the assembled troops knocked CSM Scott off his soft sell.

“Now come on guys. Sergeant Major’s being straight with everyone. Frankly, the only thing I hate more than Christmas is all of you. I wasn’t kidding when I said this was voluntary. But given your options, you can decide what’s the best thing for which to volunteer.

“I will be attending only so I can enjoy your unhappiness in person. Matter of fact, I can already tell you who is definitely attending. There are plenty of you who broke tape this last APFT, so I’m going to start with the fattest of you and work my way down.”

CSM Scott then singled out Private First Class Jay Renaldo and made an example out of him.

“Renaldo, you’re going to play Santa. I don’t give a fuck that you’re black, this is America. Either way, if the CO’s kids aren’t delighted with you, I’ll run you so ragged that you’ll look ready to play Jesus next Easter. Oh, don’t look so fucking offended. You don’t think Jesus was black? Well who’s the racist now? Bottom line: fucking be there.”

There was outright laughter at the line and that finally tore what civility CSM Scott had left.

“Okay, that does it. Everyone listen to me real good, you better get their asses online and buy a new PS3 game for the CO’s kid, and you better make sure there ain’t no duplicates either. If there is I’m going to do just like Herod did and kill all the male children on post.”

The Command Sergeant Major later told Duffel Blog reporters that he was proud to say that “100% of my soldiers volunteered to attend the party.”

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Operation Security Roof:
“The Mission Ahead Is The Building
Of A Solid Concrete Roof Over The
Entire Jewish State”
“PM Netanyahu Is Determined That The
Only Way To Defend Israel’s Populated**

Area Is To Cover The Jewish State With A Thick Layer Of Iron And Cement”

November 19, 2012 By Gilad Atzmon, www.gilad.co.uk/

Following the IDF difficulties in defeating Hamas’s ballistic warfare, the Israeli Government is now searching for contractors with some advanced experience in large scale reinforced concrete constructions.

The mission ahead is the building of a solid concrete roof over the entire Jewish State.

PM Netanyahu is determined that the only way to defend Israel’s populated area is to cover the Jewish State with a thick layer of iron and cement.

The Israeli Government’s decision to build a concrete roof followed a considerable debate within the cabinet.

Defence Minister Ehud Barak insisted that a massive extension of the current Security Wall would be enough to provide the goods. Barak maintained that a substantial increase of the wall to the height of 90,000 ft. would be more than sufficient to stop missiles from entering Israeli territory. He sensibly argued that Israeli youngsters would benefit from seeing the blue sky when they raise their eyes above.

Prime Minister Netanyahu couldn’t agree less. Being fully aware of the nature of ballistic warfare, the PM contended that the only way to provide the Jewish State with the ultimate security is to cover it from above with a reinforced concrete shield.

Israeli President Shimon Peres, the legendary peace enthusiast, offered a compromise inspired by the idea of a trampoline. Peres suggested that a Security Wall’s 90,000 ft. extension made of an elastic net would do the job. The elder statesman argued that an elastic net will guarantee that every Palestinian missile aimed at Israel would bounce back to the Arab territory once it hits the net.

Netanyahu and Barak dismissed Peres’s suggestion. They argued that considering the excessive Israeli usage of artillery and missiles against the Gazans, the Jewish State would suffer far more from the erection of such a ‘bouncy net’. “Israel,” said Barak, “would never survive the extent of its own fierce artillery barrages bouncing back on itself.”

In a press conference following the heated cabinet debate, the Government spokesman Mr Zion Zioni stressed that “following the total success of the Security Wall in stopping Palestinian suicidal terror, ‘Security Roof’ is obviously the natural way to proceed.” Mr Zioni maintained as well that the new Israeli project will turn the Jewish State into a “sealed Jewish Bunker”.

“In fact,” Zioni emphasised, “‘Operation Security Roof’ brings the Zionist adventure into its final destination. We are now moving from the ‘Iron Wall’ phase into the ‘Concrete Roof’ future. With a reinforced concrete ceiling from above, a Security Wall in the East

and the Mediterranean Sea in the West, the Jewish State will eventually become the safest haven for world Jewry. Herzl's dream comes true. Long Live Israel!"

Yet, some technical difficulties lay ahead.

Probably the most crucial problem has something to do with breathing. Like the rest of the humankind, most Israeli people consume oxygen and release carbon dioxide. Apparently, the Israeli cabinet Ministers were made aware of this very crucial fact by the Health Minister Dr. Herbal Krechtzen.

Netanyahu, being a man of action, responded immediately. Already in the cabinet meeting he authorised the Defence Ministry to explore different solutions to the acute biological problem.

We already learned from the Defence Ministry spokesman Lt. Galileo Galilee that 'Filter On The Roof', the Israeli-American High Tech chemical giant (traded on Wall Street, operated from Gush Katif) has been contracted to deal with the problem.

We have learned as well from Lt. Galilee that Filter On The Roof has already come up with more than a few solutions. Although some of the solutions are rather radical, it is crucial to mention that they are all extremely innovative, as you would expect from an Israeli-American High Tech venture.

Probably the most conventional and practical solution proposed by the chemical giant was to bore as many as 6 million ventilation holes in the roof. Peres, Netanyahu and Barak rejected the possibility without even thinking twice. "Considering our traumatic collective memory of the holocaust," so they said, "turning the Jewish State into a big room with holes in the ceiling is simply unacceptable."

Probably the most radical suggestion made by the Israeli-American company was to train the Jewish population in Israel to breath like fish.

By the time the Israeli people are well trained, all that is left to do is just to fill the Jewish bunker with seawater. In other words, Filter on the Roof suggested to turn the Israeli State into a 'giant Jewish tropical aquarium'.

Though this option seems to be very radical and even inconceivable, most cabinet Ministers reacted enthusiastically.

They all agreed that such a solution would fit nicely with the concept of modern Jewish life in general and Zionism in particular. Israelis love the sea. Israelis, unlike the Diaspora Jews are not afraid of water. Once the entire Israeli society is covered with water, no one would ever consider throwing them to the sea.

We will be following this developing story and keeping you informed.

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

California Man Jailed Four Days For Recording Cops: “Charged With Resisting, Delaying And Obstructing An Officer” He “Was Only Arrested When He Failed To Produce Identification To An Approaching Officer” “There Is No Law In California That Requires Citizens To Produce Identification”

November 25, 2012 by Carlos Miller, PINAC [Excerpts]

A California man was jailed for four days for attempting to record police officers on a public street.

Daniel J. Saulmon was charged with resisting, delaying and obstructing an officer but the video shows he was standing well out the way of a traffic stop and was only arrested when he failed to produce identification to an approaching officer.

And there is no law in California that requires citizens to produce identification. And even if there was, it would require the officer to have a reasonable suspicion that he was committing a crime.

But prosecutors have already dropped the charge against Saulmon as well as a few other minor citations relating to his bicycle such as not have proper reflectors on the pedals.

And they most likely knew who he was considering he won a \$25,000 settlement from the same police department after they unlawfully arrested him on eavesdropping/wiretapping charges in 2005.

This time, it appears the Hawthorne Police Department will be dishing out much more, thanks to officer Gabriel Lira's abuse of authority.

“They knew exactly who I was,” Saulmon said in a telephone interview with Photography is Not a Crime Saturday, adding that he has recorded them on a regular basis since the 2005 arrest when he was jailed after attempting to file a complaint inside the police station.

“They always address me as ‘Mr. Saulmon’,” he said.

Judging by his Youtube channel, which is filled with videos of police officers from Southern California jurisdictions, his latest arrest was an obvious case of retaliation.

The arrest took place on November 8, a Thursday, close to midnight. Because it was a holiday weekend, he would have had to wait until Tuesday to see a judge. He bailed himself out on Monday with a \$1,000 he did not want to spend.

It took police a week to return his camera and his bicycle, and only after his attorney sent them a letter informing them that they had no legal basis to maintain possession of his personal property.

Even though he is still facing a citation for not having a headlight on his bicycle, he says he has video evidence from when he picked it up that shows it had two working headlights.

CLASS WAR REPORTS



Billions Warn Higher Taxes Could Prevent Them From Buying Politicians



December 9, 2012 The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON — Introducing a new wrinkle into the already fraught fiscal cliff showdown, a consortium of billionaires today warned that if their taxes are raised they will no longer have enough money to buy politicians.

The group, led by casino billionaire Sheldon Adelson, commissioned a new study showing that the cost of an average politician has soared exponentially over the past decade.

While the American family has seen increases in the cost of food, health care and education, Mr. Adelson says, “those costs don’t compare with the cost of buying a politician, which has gone through the roof.”

The casino billionaire points to his group’s study, which puts the cost of purchasing an average House member at two million dollars and an average senator at several times that.

“And let’s say you buy a senator like Jim DeMint and he decides to quit,” Mr. Adelson says. “Good luck trying to get your money back.”

The Vegas magnate complains that the media has ignored billionaires’ essential role in giving jobs to politicians who would otherwise have difficulty finding “honest work of any kind.”

“Billionaires are providing employment for a group of seriously incompetent and marginal people,” Mr. Adelson says. “You raise taxes on us, and who’s going to create those jobs? I really don’t think people have thought this through.”

Adding insult to injury for America’s billionaires, he says, “the simple dream of someday owning a President is slipping out of reach.”

"People think a billion dollars buys you a President, but they're wrong," he says. "It barely gets you a lemon like Mitt Romney."

Vietnam GI: Reprints Available

Vietnam GI

January, 1969

Free to Servicemen

"... he threw his rifle at his Commanding Officer..."



WHEN HAWKS RETIRE

All of us who've had our "free" trips to Sunny Nam and South Korea shouldn't feel guilty about accepting such "gifts" from the Government. Lots of hawk politicians are taking Government trips too. Of course, their trips are a little bit different.

Take Senator Edward V. Long (D-Mo.), the Senate Judiciary Committee bigshot whose retirement in January was speeded up by graft scandals. The good Senator decided that as a last sacrifice to his country he would give himself TDY to Europe. The reason was to "get firsthand information on foreign aid and military assistance programs." Doubtless, that's why he took his wife along.

Of special interest was his visit to

Switzerland, which neither gets US aid nor wants any. It doesn't really make any difference, since as soon as Senator Long returned from his "fact-finding mission" he retired from the Senate, thus depriving our Congress of all his "facts" (mostly on nightclubs and ritzy hotels).

Going to and from Europe Long traveled on Senate funds, but while on TDY there, he economized by using US military aircraft, cars and chauffeurs to get around. The Pension ordered the red carpet rolled out around the world. Nothing too good for a retiring hawk politician. As the saying goes, in America we're all equal ... only some are more equal than others.

As we go to press we learn that the government has finally agreed on the shape of the table and seating arrangements for the Paris talks. Now that everyone is seated and comfortable, maybe we can expect further "breakthroughs." The grim fact is that while the government honchos are jiving in Paris, thousands of our buddies are still dying in Nam. In fact, since they began talking last May 7,000 GIs have been killed in action. Talk or no talk, the only solution is to get the hell out of Nam, immediately. Stop talking and start shipping us home. The next issue of VGI will discuss the Paris talks in greater detail. By that

Below is an interview with a Marine who didn't like the war and figured out why. This guy is a Platoon SGT with five years in the Green Machine, and over a year in Nam, mostly in long range recon with Charlie Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion. VGI spoke to him while he was on leave awaiting his second Nam tour. Since he doesn't ETO until 1972 we've left out his name.

VGI: How did you feel about the war when you went over there. Did your feelings change?

A: When I first went over there, I thought it would be a great thing in pay, and a great use experience of being in war. I really thought it was going to be something different. But then I got put on some of these patrols and I got to see the people and got to talk to the people. This was the big thing that finally changed me. I finally saw that it wasn't worth while, and that they actually don't want our help because it actually isn't help.

VGI: Did you have any contacts with the Vietnamese, with the people?

A: There was a place called Ben Son and for a while I was stationed down at the bridge there. This is where I lived, ate, slept, drank, everything. There were houses right next to my bunker, we had an address for ours and we gave everybody else addresses. We explained to the people what the addresses were and they got all shook up about the whole thing, woo, they got addresses now.

VGI: What was it like living there?

A: We lived with them, we shared our food with them. They used to really go for the little treats in the cration packs, the gum and the cration cigarettes and everything, and in turn they'd bring back bananas. There was this one girl, her name was—I can't think of her name now—I had her picture but I lost it. This one girl, she really stands out in my mind because she used to come over and bring us beer every day and in turn, all the expats from us was the empty boxes of condoms, that's all she wanted, the empty boxes. But then we started putting little things in the empty boxes and told her we wanted her to have them.

VGI: What would she want with the empty boxes?

A: I don't know, the Vietnamese people, they could take an empty can of nothing and make something out of it. She made me a soaplet which she had made out of a cration tin. She had pounded it out with a nail and a hammer, it had a little bodiella on it and I wore it all the time. I actually got to feel naked after I lost it.

But yet, later on, during the Tet holidays, the Viet Cong came in and burned out half of the village and the survivors naturally went in pursuit. In order to stop them, the VC took this girl and they cut off her breasts. She was brought up to the hospital and later she died.

VGI: Did the brass give you any stink about talking with the Vietnamese?

A: The incident when I almost got into trouble was, there was a convoy of about 12 to 14 trucks. I think it was. I had a whole bunch of plywood on it and we took this plywood over to a village chief in Ben Son, he was one of

the elders. We dropped off something like 14 sheets of plywood. Naturally, when we got back, there was one truckload of plywood missing, and they asked where it was. They later found out that I had given it to this village chief, not for my own good relations with him, but because there was times when we didn't get resupplied at our observation point, and they brought us food. So we gave them something else in return.

interview

VGI: What are some of the things you saw and did that led you into deciding in the middle of Nam not to fight anymore?

A: Well, I saw times when COL Bull Fisher, when he would tell his men to dismantle their personnel-carrying flame-throwers, take them out on a company sleep and put them back together once they got out. He went into a village and told them, "Are there any Viet Cong here?" The village chief naturally said "No" because he knew that if he said yes, he didn't know what'd happen to him. Then COL Fisher said, "Well, if there is any Viet Cong in this village, we'll show you what's going to happen." He sent one of his flame men up to the house, he didn't check to see if there was anybody in it or not. Later we found out there was a woman in there who was real sick, she couldn't move or anything. She was burned to death. It was terrible. And seeing guys being carried in in ponchos. A full-grown man weighed about two pounds after he was brought in as a sack of raw flesh or something like that.

VGI: Did you see any other incidents like this?

A: There was this little village just out of Ben Son where we bought our rice and got our ice. It's not poetry, it's really true. It was just this small village, maybe 16 or 17 houses. It was a "gray to white" village, off and on there'd be Viet Cong visiting the area. No hostilities at all, they'd just go in there to be resupplied. Yet one day, they found out that VC were coming into that village and they called "Puff," "Puff," came over and invaded the whole village down. I think maybe three people lived out of the whole thing. One was a little baby about two years old whose mother and father was gone.

One of the guys sort of adopted this kid, this little two year old. He took this kid real close. When we went on R and R we brought him back toys and trucks and things like that. It was really something, because they don't get too many trucks over there. We'd round up a few dump trucks and stuff like that from Hong Kong. They were really surprised to see the new toys. I mean, the toys they play with, old condom cans and stuff like that are their toys. They're a fascinating people. If you just have an opportunity to see them, to get to know them, they're really great.

VGI: How do you think they feel about us?

A: This one incident—I know of the letter one north Vietnamese who was down south and wrote to his brother up north who was intent on coming down

Continued on page 8

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command.

The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

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