

## Military Resistance 10L7



**“After 11 Years Of War,  
Many Here Long For A  
Return Of The Taliban”  
“All These Foreign Soldiers Are  
Here And It Is Totally Insecure  
Everywhere In Helmand”**

**“Like The Majority Of Those At  
The Stop, He Wanted Foreign  
Forces To Leave Afghanistan”  
“They Say That Under The Taliban,  
They Were At Least Safe From Crime  
And Corruption”  
“They Were Never Cruel To Us And The  
One Difference Was Security. It Was  
Better During The Taliban”**

Dec 11, 2012 By KATHY GANNON, Associated Press [Excerpts]

MARJAH, Afghanistan —

Nearly three years after U.S.-led forces launched the biggest operation of the war to clear insurgents, foster economic growth and set a model for the rest of Afghanistan, angry residents of Helmand province say they are too afraid to go out after dark because of marauding bands of thieves.

And during the day, they say corrupt police and government officials bully them into paying bribes.

**After 11 years of war, many here long for a return of the Taliban. They say that under the Taliban, who routinely punished thieves by cutting off a hand, they were at least safe from crime and corruption.**

**“If you had a box of cash on your head, you could go to the farthest part of Marjah and no one would take it from you, even at night,” said Maulvi Daoud, who runs a cubbyhole sized-shop in the town of Marjah.**

**“Today you bring your motorcycle in front of your shop and it will be gone. Now the situation is that you go on the road and they are standing in police and army uniform with weapons and they can take your money.”**

It was in the town of Marjah in early 2010 that some 15,000 NATO and Afghan forces waged the war's biggest battle. They not only fought the Taliban with weapons, they promised to bring good governance to Marjah and the rest of the southern province of Helmand — and demonstrate to the residents the advantages of shunning the militants.

But it appears the flaw in the plan was with the quality of Afghans chosen by President Hamid Karzai to govern and police the area after most of the fighting ended.

**Despite military claims of gains across the province and an overall drop in violence, Marjah residents told The Associated Press that NATO's counterinsurgency experiment has failed.**

A bleak picture also emerges from anecdotal evidence collected from dozens of interviews with residents elsewhere in the province, some from the most violent districts.

**Many claim the U.S.-funded local police, a type of locally sanctioned militia, routinely demand bribes and threaten to accuse those who do not comply of being members of the Taliban.**

Good governance never came to Marjah, they say.

In villages of sun-baked mud homes, at crowded bus stops and in local tea houses where residents sit cross-legged on plastic-covered tables drinking tea and eating off communal plates, people scoffed at claims of security and development.

**They heaped criticism on the Afghan government and officials, accusing them of stealing billions of dollars in aid money meant for the people and on an international community that they said ignored their needs and pandered to a corrupt administration.**

Daoud, the Marjah shop owner, said there was more security under the country's Taliban regime that was ousted by the U.S.-led invasion in late 2001.

“They were never cruel to us and the one difference was security. It was better during the Taliban,” he said.

His partner in the rickety shop along Marjah's chaotic one-street bazaar, Mohammed Haider, said poppy farmers who planted substitute crops such as cotton are losing money because they cannot sell their harvests.

At a bus stop in Helmand's provincial capital of Lashkar Gah, residents scrambled for dilapidated old buses and cars to go to parts of Helmand.

Hamidullah, who like many Afghans uses only one name, was waiting for a bus to Sangin district — the scene of some of the most violent fighting between the Taliban and British and U.S. forces.

**Like the majority of those at the stop, he wanted foreign forces to leave Afghanistan.**

**“All these foreign soldiers are here and it is totally insecure everywhere in Helmand,” Hamidullah said.**

**“For the time that they are in Afghanistan we will always have war.”**

Several of the men scrambling on top the packed buses and jamming themselves into the back of cars seemed to growl at the presence of foreigners in their midst.

**A single question: “What is the situation like in Helmand today?” brought a cacophony of answers. Many of the voices sounded angry, some sounded weary and a few angry-looking men walked away.**

**“We are completely destroyed today,” said Hamidullah.**

**“The situation is getting worse and worse,” shouted a voice in the crowd.**

**Another yelled: “There is no security because of the foreigners.”**

**And from a deeply wrinkled elderly man whose voice seemed both angry and sad: “If the foreigners are out of Afghanistan, all the problems will be solved. Are our lives any better?”**

Analysts who know Helmand say a corrupt government poses one of the biggest hurdles to stability, alienating the local population and driving them into the hands of the Taliban.

The province is strategically important because of a massive poppy production that is financing the insurgency and fueling criminal activity.

**While some success has been achieved at getting farmers to plant substitute crops, Helmand is still one of Afghanistan's largest opium-producing provinces, often blamed on anti-government sentiment and collusion between corrupt government officials and the Taliban.**

Despite a drop of 8 percent in militant attacks from January to October compared to the same period last year, Helmand and neighboring Nimroz province accounted for 32 percent of all such attacks reported across the country from October 2011 to October this year, according to ISAF.

Ryan Evans, a research fellow at the U.S.-based Center for National Policy, called Helmand the “most dangerous and violent” of Afghanistan's 34 provinces.

“From 2010 to early 2012, one of five ISAF soldiers was killed in this one province — Helmand. And the province has since taken more lives and limbs than any other province,” said Evans, who worked with U.S. and British troops in Helmand during 2010 and 2011.

Afghanistan continues to be one of the poorest countries in the world, with the average person earning less than one dollar a day despite \$32 billion in foreign investment.

**The country has also tumbled in corruption ratings assembled by Transparency International. Afghanistan was ranked 117 out of 158 countries in 2005, then slid to 180 out of 183 nations last year.**

**The scandal-ridden Kabul Bank milked millions of dollars from Afghans' savings.**

Some Afghans believe their countrymen are responsible for the current state of affairs.

Haji Khalil who moved his family from Marjah to Lashkar Gah during the 2010 offensive, blamed Afghans for the spike in thefts and lawlessness since the defeat of the Taliban.

“During the Taliban no one would steal because we knew the punishment, but when they left everyone began to steal,” Khalil said.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE  
BLOODSHED**

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

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

**“The Oppression Being Carried  
Out By The Intelligence Agency Of  
Karzai Is Also Which A Human  
Cannot Describe”**

**“Such Atrocities Are Taking Place In  
All Corners Of Our Country”  
[Statement Of Islamic Emirate Regarding  
The Crimes Of The Invaders And  
Arbakis]**



[This is a press release from the Afghan office of what is known in the U.S. as the “Taliban.”]

10 December 2012 The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

Ever since the process of 'Arbaki' was initiated about 2 years ago where a number of gangs were armed by the foreign invaders throughout the country, the daily life of most Afghans has largely been negatively affected in many of those parts.

Arbaki's, most of whom are drug addicts, crooks, thieves, former gunmen, rejected family members and other knee deep offenders, have reached out to heart rending crimes in the various regions. Below are examples of some of the crimes committed by Arbaki's in the past month regarding which we have been informed:

### **Kandahar**

On the 04/12/12 in Zhari district's Kadal area, an Arbaki commander (Sher Agha) lost 6 of his men in a firefight with Mujahideen. A Mujahid was also martyred in this face to face fighting and his body left behind on the battle field.

The said commander tied the body of the martyr to his vehicle and dragged it for three kilometers, and then he hung the body for two days in Siya Choyo Dukano area after which he set it on fire only leaving behind the bones of the martyr.

A few days later, the same Arbaki's detained an unarmed Mujahid in the same area and after repeated torture; they brutally cut off his arms and legs before twisting and breaking his neck.

Similarly, the same commander (Sher Agha) detained an innocent man charging him of being a Taliban member in Kolak village a few days later.

The body of the innocent civilian was found in a bag a couple of days later with his eyes gouged out, both of his arms and legs severed and the rest of it cut to pieces.

A few ago in Zhari district's Nada village, armed Arbaki's charged and detained two memorizers of the Holy Quran of being Taliban members, tied both of them between two pickup trucks before driving both of the vehicles in opposite directions, martyring both of the 'Hufaaz' by splitting them in two.

### **Maiwand District**

Arbaki's took out several villagers from their homes a while back in Maiwand district's Aswada Karez area, accused them of being or helping Taliban before lying them on the grounds, repeatedly running them over with their vehicles and leaving them martyred under its tires.

Another incident happened inside the district Police headquarters where Arbaki's have been granted a special department in which they hold their prisoners and commit torture.

The Arbaki's keep a scorching hot long wide metal bar in this designated area and burn suspects accused of being Taliban. Many have been martyred by succumbing to this type of torture.

### **Panjwai District**

In Panjwai district's Yakh Sah area, a notorious Arbaki commander (Shamsullah), besides committing other criminal acts, stops vehicles for searches on the main road where he searches for young boys and after finding one of his liking, takes and keeps him inside his check post for weeks and commits group rape.

### **Dand District**

A Mujahid (Sayed Jan) blew apart an Arabki vehicle with an IED in Salawat area of Dand district and left the area. Arabaki's later forced their way inside his home where they martyred two female house members and the brother of Sayed Jan.

After the police chief of Dand district was killed in a bomb blast in Nakhoni region's Nawroz area, Dand district, Arabaki's entered the home of a local Mullah, martyred 2 of his sons and beat up his old mother in front of the public.

### **Arghandab District**

An Arbaki commander (Ishaq) tied two Mujahideen who were injured in enemy airstrikes in Arghandab district's Tabeen area and dragged them until both attained martyrdom.

In the district's Naghan village, an Arbaki commander (Muhammad Nabi), after finding an IED grabbed an innocent civilian on grounds of suspicion, sat him on the IED and then detonated it.

### **Logar**

In the month of Ramadan of the current year (2012), an innocent civilian, who was an only orphaned child raised by his mother, got wounded in cross fire between Mujahideen and Arabakis in Dahabad area near Logar provincial capital. When the Arbaki's learnt the said person was wounded and taken to a local clinic, they approached the doctors and barred them from treating him despite the mother of the man pleading his innocence. The Arbaki's responded: "We don't recognize God and your son is a Talib." They prevented doctors from treating him until he attained martyrdom.

### **Parwan**

A notorious Arbaki commander (Mehrab) in Koh-e-Safi district forcefully took away the wife of a local, kept her in his base for one month where she was repeatedly gang raped. After altercation amongst themselves on the woman, they killed her and blamed it on her father-in-law. Then they raided and looted the home of her father-in-law.

### **Kunduz**

Arbakis from Gor Tapa area went to the a gathering about a personal feud in Ashqalan area adjacent Kunduz city where they shot at two white bearded elders (Amir Khan and Gulabuddin), wounding both as well as beating other attendees.

Arbaki's looted the home of an elder (Haji Noor Muhammad) in Gor Tapa region's Arabano area in broad daylight, martyred one of his son's and wounded Haji Noor Muhammad along with his another son.

Arabki's deliberately opened fire on a passing vehicle in Aqtash Basoso area adjacent Kunduz city, martyring an innocent woman aboard.

### **Herat**

4 unarmed Mujahideen riding on two motorbikes were arrested by foreign troops in Zer Koh region of Shindand district and were detainees with the enemy for ten days. They were later discovered in a desert by a local shepherd in a state where they were tortured, bodies cut into pieces, arms and legs severed and all meat shaved from their bones.

### **Ghazni**

On 18 of November of the current year, a group of Arbaki's from Shilgar district backed by American tanks entered Shaili village of Gero district at night.

With onset of daylight, as a local mosque Imam (Mawlawi Sahib Zabihullah) was leading villagers in morning prayer, the Arabki's stormed into the mosque, arrested the said Mawlawi along with a few of his students and villagers before taking them back to Shilgar district when the Americans left Gero.

Two days later, the body of Mawlawi Zabihullah was found Shilgar district's Ibraheem Khelo village in a state that all his bones were broken from beatings, and his face and eyes sprayed with bullets, Surely to Allah we belong and to him is the return.

### **Ghor**

A short while back, notorious Arbaki's in Charsada district detained 3 madrasa students (Taliban) by forcing them out of a local vehicle and shot them on site despite repeated pleas by other passengers of their innocence.

### **Helmand**

On the 3rd of November of the current year, in retaliation to losing several of their comrades in combat in Barakzo area of Sangin district, Arbaki's shot and martyred a woman and her child before taking away 4 other civilians as prisoners.

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Above are some examples of the crimes committed by Arbaki's in the past month or so.

Such atrocities are taking place in all corners of our country and our oppressed nation is its target.

Today's Arbaki's are the exact replicas of yesterday's gunmen, 'Gilam Jam' and highway robbers who have decided on looting the honour, wealth and lives of our nation; are fanning the flames of tribal conflicts; are encouraging youth towards drugs, moral degradation, robbery and are pushing the society towards total anarchy.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan earnestly asks all Human Right organization to back the Afghans in containing this corruption and to save the nation from this great calamity.

Similarly, we ask writers as well as the media to lift the curtains from these tyrants and their gross human right violations.

Expose the ongoing barbarism of Arbakism and militiaism, shed light on its future implication for the country and its people and point out the faces of its backers who are paving the way for partition and internal strife for their personal gains.

The oppression being carried out by the intelligence agency of Karzai is also which a human cannot describe while all these carry with it repercussions, the responsibility of which shall be placed squarely on its advocates.

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

## **MILITARY NEWS**

# **“More Than 50,000 Americans Have Been Wounded In Battle Since October 2001 In Afghanistan Or Iraq”**

12/10/2012 by David Wood, The Huffington Post [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON -- In a grim marker of the human cost of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the Pentagon reported Monday that active-duty American troops were hospitalized in the United States at three times the peacetime rate -- with mental health injuries comprising the largest category.

The new report by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center said that 891,903 troops were hospitalized from October 2001 to June 2012.

These patients drove the stateside hospital bed occupancy rate up to 4.2 million days, almost four times the normal peacetime rate, a number that reflects the serious nature of the patients' physical and mental wounds.

Among the 891,903 hospitalizations recorded during the wartime period, 153,936 were for physical injuries and 161,385 were for mental health diagnoses. The report also documented 1.7 million ambulatory visits to military health facilities for mental disorders.

The mental health injuries “directly reflect the nature, durations and intensities of the combat in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as the psychological stresses associated with prolonged and often repeated combat deployments,” the report said.

The Defense Department's report on the human cost of the war does not mention wounded Afghan civilians or wounded Afghan troops or insurgents.

**It also understates the extent of wounded Americans because it does not include hospitalizations or other medical care that took place in the war zone, nor does it take into account veterans or National Guard and reserve troops treated in civilian hospitals.**

The report also does not mention the cost of caring for the war wounded. But it noted that the costs and the burden on the military health care system are not expected to decline as the war winds down.

In fact, that burden may actually increase as the newly wounded join those who are still recuperating.

More than 50,000 Americans have been wounded in battle since October 2001 in Afghanistan or Iraq, according to Pentagon data updated Monday. Many of them have been severely wounded, as detailed in a 2011 Huffington Post series, Beyond the Battlefield.

Since many of the wounds recorded in the new Pentagon report are “chronically disabling but no longer life-threatening,” the patients “will require decades of medical care,” the report said.

Until the current patient population and the newly wounded leave active duty, the report says, “the cumulative costs of war-related health care will increase.”

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**“Did Big Army Order A Bad Pair Of Boots For Us (I.E., Fraud), Or Does The Command In Bagram Simply**

# **Dislike Having New Boots Being Worn (I.E., Waste)?”**

## **“How Many Millions Of Dollars Went Into Developing The New Boots?”**

### **“Why Issue Us Equipment If We Aren’t Supposed To Use It?”**

Army Times  
Letters to the Editor  
Dec. 17, 2012

How is it that we continually field new equipment to troops and then deny them the opportunity to use it?

Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan does not allow for the wear of the new mountain boots being issued through the Rapid Fielding Initiative to deploying soldiers.

Did Big Army order a bad pair of boots for us (i.e., fraud), or does the command in Bagram simply dislike having new boots being worn (i.e., waste)?

If, on the other hand, the boots are better (and they are), why would the command in Bagram resist having them worn?

This reminds me of when 3rd Infantry Division in Iraq refused to allow the use of the boonie cap because it looked “unprofessional.”

A rant, sure, but why issue us equipment if we aren’t supposed to use it? How many millions of dollars went into developing the new boots?

How many millions into fielding them to the force?

Sgt. 1st Class John Wright  
Fort Campbell, Ky.

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**OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

**“The Teenagers Of Qalandiya  
Don’t Need An Official  
Declaration Of A Day Of Rage”**

**“The Rage Has Been Flowing  
Through Their Veins For A While  
Now. They Have Been Protesting  
For Many Weeks In Front Of The  
Checkpoint”**

**“They Who Have Yet To Take The  
Burden Of A Family On Their  
Shoulders, Are Made From The Stuff  
That Generators Of Change Are Made  
Of, As Well As Leaders Of Struggles  
And Revolutions”**

**“I Asked: ‘Are They Your Children?’  
‘All Of The Children Are Mine’ She  
Said”**



Qalنديya. (Photo: Tamar Fleishman)

**They, who have never known content and prosperity, who had their childhoods crushed, they who see everything through the eyes of those who had been shot and are depicted in pictures hanging on the cracked walls of their homes, they that have ceased to fear the rifles or the Palestinian Authority, they who have yet to take the burden of a family on their shoulders, are made from the stuff that generators of change are made of, as well as leaders of struggles and revolutions.**

Dec 8 2012 By Tamar Fleishman, PalestineChronicle.com; Translated by Ruth Fleishman

As a member of Machsomwatch, once a week Tamar Fleishman heads out to document the checkpoints between Jerusalem and Ramallah. This documentation (reports, photos and videos) can be found on the organization's site: [www.machsomwatch.org](http://www.machsomwatch.org). The majority of the Spotlights (an opinion page) that are published on the site had been written by her. She is also a member of the Coalition of Women for Peace and volunteer in Breaking the Silence.

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The final two days of Israel's so-called Pillar of Cloud operation were declared as days of rage.

In front of the checkpoints, the prisons and the army bases - the symbols of the occupation in the West Bank – fierce demonstrations took place.

In response the army attacked the protesters with tear gas and shock grenades and didn't refrain from firing with lethal weapons at the demonstrators, which is prohibited by order of the military prosecutor.

**The teenagers of Qalandiya don't need an official declaration of a day of rage. The rage has been flowing through their veins for a while now. They have been protesting for many weeks in front of the checkpoint.**

They do it over and over again in spite of the objection of the Palestinian Authority and the anger of the business owners at the site, due to the damage caused to their livelihood.

**The teenagers of Qalandiya that led the protest during the days of rage as well as during the previous weeks, that had poverty and despair shape their adolescence and follow them through their short lives like a shadow, had grown into an engine of determination.**

**They, who have never known content and prosperity, who had their childhoods crushed, they who see everything through the eyes of those who had been shot and are depicted in pictures hanging on the cracked walls of their homes, they that have ceased to fear the rifles or the Palestinian Authority, they who have yet to take the burden of a family on their shoulders, are made from the stuff that generators of change are made of, as well as leaders of struggles and revolutions.**

**They don't act separately but as one.**

For these youngsters the slaughter expedition in Gaza was the oil that was added to the fire and not the burning match that lit it.

During each one of the two days of rage tens of them huddled up, they came sliding down the hill at the farther end on the separation wall, came bare chested with their faces unveiled towards the soldiers, holding in their clenched fists stones and Molotov bottles.

They were shoved back by rounds of shootings and disappeared behind clouds of gas.

Others skipped between the rooftops of houses, jumping from roof to roof as they joined their friends on the street in battle.

The shots were aimed at them as well and the smoke and bullets trails drew white and fire strips in the sky that was turning gray.

The area between the two camps looked like a battle field: a lot of shooting, a lot of stones, a lot of gas and many detainees.

And an old wrinkled woman coming out of the alleys of the refugee camp approached me and talked of the children that had been arrested. I asked: "are they your children?"- "All of the children are mine" she said and asked why I, a Jew, hadn't told the soldiers that what they were doing was not to be done.

A young man standing nearby replied:" she did, she yelled at them and they shoved her with force and yelled back at her to shut up"- "Then she should bring her friends from Israel, they should come here and see what they are doing to us", she said and walked away.

After walking a few meters she turned as though she recalled something she had to add, she came back and once again approached me and said: “tell all your friends to come here...”, I promised that I would do so. Here I am, telling.

As of the beginning of the fighting in Gaza soldiers took over the rooftop of a corner building, they confiscated it from the owner, they appropriated it and turned it into a post from which they would snipe at the teenagers.

They were there from morning till night, soiling what wasn't theirs, or as a friend said to me: “on the roof they do what is usually done in the toilet.

It seems as though the main street that leads to Ramallah was a site under curfew- the doors of the business places were all shut in compliance with the soldiers' orders who had threatened the owners that any store that remained open would be gassed.

The street was also under closure for a short period of time when the soldiers had their rifles drawn making sure that no one passed without permission. “A sterile zone” they call it.

And on the road that was empty of people, while the sound of fire being shoot was deafening and threatening, in the air that was mixed with dust and gas, stood the most charming boy Haled, he proceeded to look for buyers even when there were none, trying to earn another Shekel and another one, to sell another packet of chewing gum and another, because Haled has a quota he has to meet and must not dare go home before completing it.

“When are you going home, Habibi?” I asked- “At eight or nine”.

This personal tragedy embodies the collective one, through it we see our heartbreaking reflection.

[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.”]

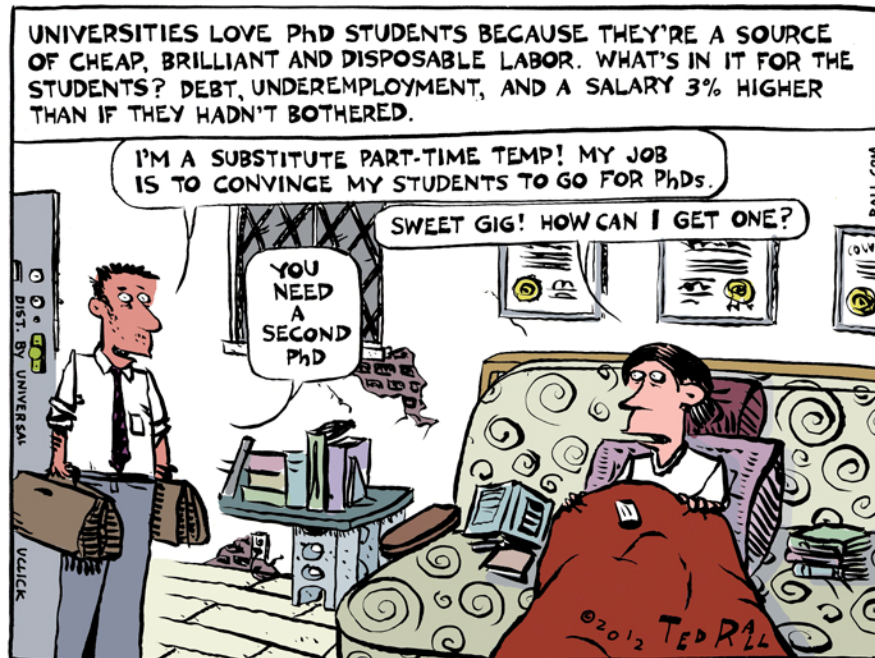
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**Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



## CLASS WAR REPORTS





# **Syrian Rebels Defy US: “The People Are Not Going To Accept Intervention By The West Now”**

**“You Were Watching Us Die, And  
Now That We Close To Victory You  
Want To Intervene?”  
“You Are Not Welcome”**

10 Dec 2012 By Ruth Sherlock, Beirut; Telegraph Media Group Limited & By MICHAEL R. GORDON and ANNE BARNARD; The New York Times Company [Excerpts]

A total of 29 opposition groups, including fighting “brigades” and civilian committees, have signed a petition calling for mass demonstrations in support of Jabhat al-Nusra, an Islamist group which the White House believes is an offshoot of al-Qaeda in Iraq.

The petition is promoting the slogan “No to American intervention, for we are all Jabhat al-Nusra” and urges supporters to “raise the Jabhat al-Nusra flag” as a “thank you”.

“These are the men for the people of Syria, these are the heroes who belong to us in religion, in blood and in revolution,” read a statement widely circulated on Syrian opposition Facebook pages.

**In keeping with a tradition throughout the uprising of choosing themes for Friday protests, the biggest day for demonstrations because it coincides with Friday Prayer, many called for this Friday’s title to be “No to American intervention — we are all Jabhet al-Nusra.”**

**The Nusra Front celebrated another apparent battlefield achievement on Monday, declaring it had captured part of a large base outside the commercial hub of Aleppo.**

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based group that tracks events in Syria through a network of activists in the country, said that the rebels had taken control of the command center of the sprawling base and that many soldiers had fled. Videos showed gunmen taking possession of tanks and anti-aircraft weapons.

Jabhat al-Nusra made its mark early this year with a string of suicide bombings, a tactic it continues to use. Aided by fighters from abroad and Syrians who have returned from other wars in the Middle East, it has also led battles for a number of military bases and has secured a string of recent victories.

Although Jabhat al-Nusra remains separate from the Free Syrian Army, many FSA leaders now recognise its strength and order their forces to cooperate with it.

The decision to blacklist the group raises the prospect of a drawn-out, anti-American insurgency if and when the rebels succeed in forcing out President Bashar al-Assad .

The designation prohibits Americans from having any financial dealings with the group and freezes its assets in the US. Washington is taking the step as part of a new strategy to impose “shape” on the opposition it hopes will replace Mr Assad.

Even mainstream opposition activists expressed anger at what they claimed was America's last-minute attempt to “muscle in on their revolution”.

“It is terrible timing on the part of the United States,” said Mulham Jundi, who works with the opposition charity Watan Syria. “By calling Jabhat al-Nusra terrorists, the US is legitimising the Syrian regime's bombardment of cities like Aleppo. Now the government can say it is attacking terrorists.”

The rise of Jabhat al-Nusra represents the Americans' worst fear – they refused to arm the rebels earlier in the conflict to avoid weapons falling into the hands of jihadists, only to find that in their absence, jihadi groups well-funded by supporters in the Gulf have risen to prominence.

**The West attempted to rectify this at the weekend by backing the formation of a new FSA command structure at a meeting in Turkey.**

**Many are linked to the Muslim Brotherhood or even more radical Salafi movements, but are thought to be men with whom the West “can do business”.**

Opposition fighters inside Syria told The Daily Telegraph that the US announcement was too little too late, and that any attempts by the West to intervene in Syria would be rejected. “We don't support the new FSA military command,” said Ous al-Arabi, a spokesman of the Deir al-Zour Revolutionary council.

“For Deir al-Zour province they have chosen people who are not representative. Jabhat al-Nusra is the strongest group here and they ignored that.

“The people are not going to accept intervention by the West now. You were watching us die, and now that we close to victory you want to intervene? You are not welcome.”

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## **Wave Of Revulsion Against Evictions Gathering Force In Spain:**

**Some Locksmiths And Police  
Reluctant Of Refusing To  
Participate;  
“Spaniards Who Gather To Protest  
Evictions Have Shoved Locksmiths  
And Spit On Them”  
“The Objections Raised By Lower-Level  
Operatives In Evictions, As Well As  
Increasingly Confrontational Protests  
From People Being Evicted, Have  
Prompted A Rare Government  
Concession”**



An Ecuadorian immigrant threatened with eviction stands above neighbors and activists protesting to support her in a town outside Barcelona. Reuters



Anti-eviction demonstrators have spit on locksmiths, and, shown, a locksmith's truck was spray painted in Madrid with the word 'assassins.' The Wall Street Journal

December 11, 2012 By MATT MOFFETT and CHRISTOPHER BJORK, Wall Street Journal

MADRID—At a time when tens of thousands of Spanish homes are being foreclosed on, locksmith Manuel Márquez has lost track of how many times he has pried open the doors of residences for police executing eviction orders.

But even Mr. Márquez was taken aback when he recently broke into one residence and found a pregnant woman in labor.

Police called an ambulance for the woman, an immigrant who didn't speak much Spanish, and the eviction was halted. Mr. Márquez said it was evident the stress of the foreclosure had induced premature birth.

"Nobody wants to do a job like this," Mr. Márquez said.

**Now some locksmiths, as well as some policemen, have emerged as conscientious objectors to Spain's eviction crisis.**

**The Union of Security Locksmiths, an industry association that represents roughly 40% of Spain's locksmiths, recently said its members won't do any more evictions involving "extreme" situations—such as pregnant or infirm adults or families with young children—because the emotional strain of throwing people out on the street is too much for locksmiths to handle.**

**In a parallel move, the Joint Union of Police recently said it would offer legal support to officers in the ranks who don't want to participate in evictions.**

The objections raised by lower-level operatives in evictions, as well as increasingly confrontational protests from people being evicted, have prompted a rare government concession to those hit hardest by Spain's economic crisis—a reprieve to some families.

Spanish home values have fallen by an average of 26% following the bursting of a property bubble in 2008, and the unemployment rate has tripled to more than 25%.

In that period, the number of evictions almost tripled as well, to 37,092 in the first half of 2012 from 13,930 in the first half of 2008, according to Spanish court data.

**The problem took on another dimension over the past couple months as participants in evictions said several homeowners committed suicide just before they were to be put out of their homes.**

**In the ensuing political uproar, mayors of several towns threatened to withdraw municipal funds deposited at banks that were carrying out evictions.**

Groups of Spanish judges also raised their voices, saying the country's mortgage laws were overly protective of the politically influential banks.

**Spanish law allows banks to continue pressing mortgage holders for debts even after their houses have been confiscated.**

Under Spanish law, evictions are carried out by a team that includes police officers, a locksmith and court officers.

“Doing evictions was always part of our job, but it's not the same to do just a few a day and doing 500 every day like we do now,” said José María Benito, a spokesman for the police union.

“Some police officers are having a tough time, and they no longer want to do them.”

Mr. Benito said some officers seeking to beg off eviction duty have taken the union up on the offer of legal support, though he couldn't say how many. “It's not like it used to be,” Mr. Benito said. “Before, you'd go to an eviction and you'd find the typical swindler who hadn't paid the mortgage because he didn't bother to.”

Scanning a list of upcoming evictions, Mr. Benito saw typical Spaniards, such as an elderly couple that had put up their apartment to guarantee a loan for their granddaughter, who defaulted.

There was also a 32-year-old woman with two kids, one of them in a wheelchair.

“We're people, not animals,” said Jesús González Miaja, a police union official. “Seeing (homeowners waiting for the last minute for a reprieve, and then being forced to put everything they own into shopping bags isn't pleasant.”

Some police are having problems of their own meeting the mortgage.

**The police union in the southern city of Málaga recently mobilized to block the eviction of an officer, with two children and a handicapped wife, who was about to lose his home.**

In response to the growing opposition, the government last month issued a decree offering distressed mortgage holders a two-year grace period if they have handicapped family members, income of less than €1,600 (\$2,075) a month, and meet other hardship criteria.

Eduarne Irigoien, a spokeswoman for the Platform for People Affected by Mortgages, an activist group, said that some evictions have been suspended since the decree took effect. But she added that the reprieved mortgage holders would likely find themselves in even a deeper financial hole when the moratorium ends in two years, because interest continues accumulating.

She also is skeptical of whether the gesture by locksmiths and police will have long-lasting impact. "Times are tough in Spain and they will always be able to find people will do this work for the money," Ms. Irigoien said.

Carlos Rodríguez, who runs a locksmith firm with 24 workers, said that henceforth the goal of the industry association is to participate only in "clean evictions."

This isn't the first time Spanish locksmiths have put themselves at the center of a big social issue. To combat violence against women, the union offers free lock-changing services to women who fear an estranged spouse or boyfriend pose a physical threat to them.

But evictions have made the locksmiths more visible.

**Ms. Irigoien's group has made some evictions far more contentious by publishing dates and addresses of scheduled evictions on its website and encouraging members to try to stop them.**

Spaniards who gather to protest evictions have shoved locksmiths and spit on them, said Luis Gómez Gozalo, who owns a large locksmith firm in Madrid.

Protesters have spray painted the word Asesinos—Killers—on his company's truck windows.

Mr. Gómez Gozalo said the number of evictions his company does had risen over the past year to as many as 100 some weeks, from about four previously. Locksmiths earn around €80 for each eviction. It adds up to about 7% of his firm's total revenue, but Mr. Gómez Gozalo said in some cases the money isn't worth it.

"Some of the boys were coming here almost in tears," he said.

**Mr. Márquez, who works for Mr. Gómez Gozalo, recalls recently participating in an eviction where a young husband was shunted onto the street with a baby in a stroller.**

At that moment, his wife and young daughter returned to the house from school. Mr. Márquez said, “I'll never forget the look of sadness on that poor little girl's face.”

## **DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?**



U.S. soldier in Beijia village Iraq, Feb. 4, 2008. (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

**Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the email address if you wish and we'll send it regularly with your best wishes. 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, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657.**

## **RECEIVED:**

**“While The People May Smile At American Soldiers, Their Smiles Cover The Justifiable Hate And Anger In Their Hearts”**

[From Romi Elnagar, AmeriConscience@yahoo.com.]

Dec 11, 2012

The similarity between the war in AfPak and the Vietnam war is striking.

The reason troops want to use Palantir sounds like the same problem that troops in Vietnam had with M-16's: what the army supplies doesn't work.

And like Vietnam, troops in Afghanistan are finding they cannot trust the indigenous people there.

Green-on-blue attacks happen, basically, because we are fighting a war of imperialism, and while the people may smile at American soldiers, their smiles cover the justifiable hate and anger in their hearts.

**REPLY:**

Exactly right all along the line.

This refers to a report in Military Resistance 10L7:

*Pentagon Filth Clinging To Useless IED Detection System:  
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Desperately Need;  
How Many Troops Have They Killed?*

Military Resistance 10L7

<http://www.militaryproject.org/docs/vol10/Military%20Resistance%2010L6%20Scum.doc>

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**RECEIVED:**

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Out Again And Give It To An Influential Teenager  
To Share With Peers”**

From: Lisa S

To: Military Resistance Newsletter

Subject: Re: Military Resistance 10L6: Scum

Date: Dec 12, 2012 5:22 AM

Have I thanked you lately for your excellent digest of news I really care about?

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Best regards,  
Lisa

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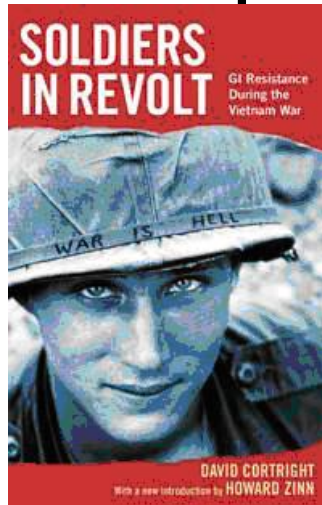
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**“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.”**  
**Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

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