

## **Military Resistance 11C4**

# **US Military Begins Annual Exercise 'Enduring Freedom'**



One of the dozens of extremely realistic IED explosions that occur aboard Joint Base Afghanistan every day during Enduring Freedom.

**"Washington is clearly trying to send a message to Beijing, and that message is: if you so much as twitch at Japan, we will invade your country, topple your government, recreate it using most of the same people, then mull around for a decade while passing out kickbacks until we run out of money and forget why we're even there."**

4 March 2013 by G-Had, The Duffle Blog

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN – With tensions in the Middle East rising over Iran's nuclear program and the Syrian civil war, the United States and NATO began their largest annual joint-exercise this week, Operation Enduring Freedom.

The exercise is a 365-day event conducted annually since 2001 on Joint Base Afghanistan and involves over 100,000 military personnel from 50 countries as diverse as Albania and Texas, working with another 400,000 host nation forces.

“In an uncertain world, we believe that Enduring Freedom shows that the NATO alliance is still a relevant force,” said International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) spokesman Colonel Nick Page.

Enduring Freedom features extremely realistic training in small unit warfare, counterinsurgency, aid distribution, government relations, and improvised explosive device handling. The exercise will also eventually feature the successful transition of security operations from ISAF to local forces from the fictional country of GIROA.

While people were amazed at the ultra-realistic training environment, some participants have complained that the exercise was poorly designed.

“Why do we have to keep holding Enduring Freedom in a landlocked country?” complained 5th Fleet commander Vice Admiral John Miller.

“I’ve got a Carrier Strike Group with enough firepower to take on God, but they never get to do anything! And all those (Rules of Engagement), where we can’t drop a bomb without seven generals giving us permission.

“I miss the days when we could just blow the shit out of Vieques.”

Some found the exercise vague and confusing.

“This is my third time doing Enduring Freedom,” said Sergeant Vince Wegner, “and I’m still unclear what my objective is. Am I supposed to be building mosques and wells, fighting the enemy, removing corrupt officials, or building those same corrupt officials up?”

Colonel Page responded, “There is no particular objective associated with Enduring Freedom. We originally tried developing this elaborate backstory involving a massive terrorist attack on the United States, but too many commanders were questioning how that tied in with passing out money to illiterate farmers.”

Some independent defense analysts disagreed, saying Enduring Freedom was clearly designed to send a message to China.

“Why else would the U.S. be operating in the middle of Central Asia, hundreds of miles from anywhere important?” asked Oliver Schirmer from the Institute for the Study of War.

“No,” he continued, “Washington is clearly trying to send a message to Beijing, and that message is: if you so much as twitch at Japan, we will invade your country, topple your government, recreate it using most of the same people, then mull around for a decade while passing out kickbacks until we run out of money and forget why we’re even there.”

Despite the controversy, many service members are just happy for the training.

“We’ve done Enduring Freedom so many times it’s become a nice refresher for us before we deploy to Australia or Africa,” said Marine Lieutenant Colonel Morris Siegel.

Page added that after eleven years, the United States and its allies were working to keep Enduring Freedom fresh and relevant.

“In a way we’re a victim of our own success because now everyone wants to show off their new hardware in Enduring Freedom.

Over the years we’ve had to find missions for tank battalions, bomber squadrons, legions of support personnel, things we never would have thought of in 2001 when it was just a dozen guys on horses.”

“Last year we got so desperate we started throwing in random scenarios where host nation forces would open fire on friendly forces for no reason,” Page said.

Joint Base Afghanistan is a 650,000 km live-fire range in Central Asia and the largest of its kind in the world.

Originally built by the Russians in 1979 over an abandoned British hunting preserve, it was briefly leased by the Pakistani military until acquired by the United States and NATO in 2001 for the sole purpose of combat training.

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



U.S. soldier in Bejjia 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.**

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Taliban Kill 17 Afghan Soldiers: “A Huge Amount Of Munitions And Two Vehicles Were Also Seized”**

March 07, 2013 Agence France-Presse

KABUL: Taliban militants killed 17 Afghan soldiers in the far northeast in one of the deadliest single attacks on government security forces in recent years, officials said on Wednesday.

The men were killed in Badakhshan on Saturday while guarding a convoy.

Their bodies were discovered by local people in the relatively peaceful mountainous province, which borders China, Pakistan and Tajikistan.

Seven other soldiers were released in exchange for some Taliban prisoners.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack.

“The soldiers were all killed in the battlefield,” Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid said in a statement sent to AFP.

“A huge amount of munitions and two vehicles were also seized,” he added.

---

## **MILITARY NEWS**

### **“Rebels Reported Gains In The North, Taking Over The Western Part Of Raqqa Province And — For The First Time — Neighborhoods In Raqqa City”**

# **Government Officials “Have Started To Send Some Of Their Families To Coastal Villages And Hometowns From Damascus”**

## **150 Government Soldiers Killed In Major Battle As Rebels Capture Aleppo Province Police Academy**

Amateur footage filmed in Raqqa city and posted on YouTube showed a crowd of people cheering and celebratory gunfire ringing as young boys stood on the head and body of a destroyed statue of Hafez al-Assad, the late president.

March 4, 2013 By NOUR MALAS in Beirut, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

Syria’s military launched a new offensive on Homs and Hama, two central cities that are part of a corridor of territory from the western coast to the capital, Damascus, where the Syrian regime has focused on consolidating control, said diplomats, analysts and Syrian military defectors.

Monday’s renewed attacks on those cities came as rebels reported gains in the north, taking over the western part of Raqqa province and — for the first time — neighborhoods in Raqqa city itself, advances that would allow the rebels to expand their northern toehold eastward.

**President Assad’s regime has steadily lost ground in the north, where rebels control most of the territory along Syria’s 565-mile border with Turkey, through the provinces of Idlib, Aleppo and, most recently, Raqqa.**

Rebels and military analysts describe the regime’s attacks in that area, where it no longer has ground troops, as defensive but not strategic, citing seemingly indiscriminate airstrikes on rebel-held territory and the use of ballistic missiles known for inaccuracy.

**In central Syria, however, the regime appears to have a more deliberate strategy, observers said.**

**Highways through Homs and Hama connect the western coast, a stronghold for the ruling regime’s Alawite minority, to Damascus.**

**The roads are vital supply routes for the military and possible exit routes for Alawites seeking to flee other parts of Syria and head back to the coast.**

While diplomats said Alawite officials have started to send some of their families to coastal villages and hometowns from Damascus, President Assad and the Alawite core

that make up the security and military apparatus appear to be focused on controlling Damascus, Homs and Hama.

"The Plan B for the regime seems to be consolidation in Damascus, not contraction to the coast," a Western diplomat working on Syria said.

Elias Hanna, a retired Lebanese brigadier general observing the conflict from neighboring Lebanon, said a loss of control over Hama would allow rebels to more easily reach the Alawite coast.

**"They are preparing for the worst-case scenario," he said of the military's renewed crackdown there. "They are preparing for the worst-case scenario,"**

**"Keeping these supply lines open is a necessity, not a strategy, by definition," Gen. Hanna said.**

In Raqqa province, activists said they took over the western part of the province as well as a security checkpoint at the entrance of Raqqa city.

One activist reached by Skype said rebels had made "major headway" in the province.

Amateur footage apparently filmed in Raqqa city and posted on YouTube showed a crowd of people cheering and celebratory gunfire ringing as young boys stood on the head and body of a destroyed statue of Hafez al-Assad, the late president.

In Aleppo province, rebels were cleaning up after a major battle at a police academy they overtook over the weekend, now the site of one of the most gruesome rebel attacks on government soldiers.

The eight-day battle left 65 rebels and 150 government soldiers dead, at least 45 of whom were shot and killed by rebels after they stormed the academy, rebels and activists said.

Rebels said the 20-acre academy was previously used by government forces as a base to shell nearby villages.

Rebels cleaning up after the battle, meanwhile, said on Monday that they had found goods, including washing machines, microwaves, refrigerators, stockpiles of food and a lamb, which they said they plan to sacrifice and eat in celebration of their victory.

**MORE:**

**UPDATE:**

**Assad Regime Loses Raqqa:**

# **The First Provincial Capital To Be Overrun By Syrian Revolutionary Forces:**

## **“In Recent Weeks, Rebel Fighters Cut Off All The Army’s Supply Routes Leading To The City”**

5 Mar 2013 Pakistan Today

DAMASCUS - Syrian rebels battling troops loyal to President Bashar al-Assad overran al-Raqqa after days of fierce fighting, and were now in "near-total control" of the northern city, activists said.

The fall of Raqqa, located on the Euphrates River, on Monday is a significant development in the two-year-old revolt against Assad. The rebels do not claim to hold any other provincial capitals.

Rebel fighters said loyalist forces were still dug in at the provincial airport 60 km from the city and they remained a threat.

A resident said that a Syrian military intelligence compound was not in rebel hands but was surrounded by anti-Assad fighters.

"This is the first provincial capital in Syria where rebels have made such progress. They now have near-total control of Raqqa city, except for some regime positions, including the military security and Baath party headquarters," Rami Abdel Rahman, the director of the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, told AFP news agency.

Activists said a police chief was killed and two senior security officials captured by the rebels.

"Rebels took the state security chief to Turkey," Abdel Rahman said, noting that the road linking Raqqa to Turkey, including the border crossing at Tal al-Abyad, was under rebel control.

Raqqa was once home to 240,000 residents, but some 800,000 people forced to flee violence in other parts of Syria have sought shelter there ever since the start of the conflict.

In recent weeks, rebel fighters cut off all the army’s supply routes leading to the city and escalated their attacks on checkpoints and other regime positions.

---

# **40 Syrian Soldiers Killed In Western Iraqi Province Of Anbar: 65 Syrian Troops And Staff Had Fled Across The Border Into Iraq Last Friday To Escape Attack By Anti-Government Rebels**

04 Mar 2013 By Mirwais Adeel, Khaama Press

According to government officials in Iraq, at least 40 Syrian soldiers have been killed in the western Iraqi province of Anbar.

The officials further added the deceased soldiers were among the 65 Syrian troops and staff who fled across the border into Iraq last Friday in order to escape an attack by anti-government rebels.

According to Reuters news agency the soldiers were driven back to the border when they were attacked by unknown gunmen.

They say the ambush occurred Monday near the area of Akashat, not far from the Syrian border, but it's not clear who the attackers were.

---

## **Piece Of Shit General Frees And Reinstates Sexual Predator Officer Convicted Of Multiple Sex Crimes : Lt. Col. Wilkerson “Had Been Convicted On Nov. 2 On Charges Of Abusive Sexual Contact, Aggravated Sexual Assault” “The Jury Sentenced Him To Dismissal, Total Pay Forfeiture And A Year In Jail”**



March 3, 2013 By Nancy Montgomery, Stars and Stripes & 3.6.13 By DONNA CASSATA, Associated Press

An Air Force general's decision to overturn a jury's guilty verdict and reinstate a fighter pilot convicted of sexual assault could prove to be a lightning rod in efforts to legislatively strip commanders of their long-held authority in sexual assault cases, victims' advocates say.

**The Air Force Times reported last month that Lt. Col. James Wilkerson, a former inspector general at Aviano Air Base in Italy, had been convicted on Nov. 2 on charges of abusive sexual contact, aggravated sexual assault and three instances of conduct unbecoming of an officer and a gentleman. The incident had involved a civilian employee.**

Third Air Force commander Lt. Gen. Craig Franklin's decision to reinstate Lt. Col. James Wilkerson was a stunning example of structural problems in an outdated military justice system rife with bias that discounts victims while emboldening offenders, advocates said.

"It's really shocking," Susan Burke, a lawyer who represents numerous military women in lawsuits against the Defense Department, said of the case.

"It's inexcusable. It's like the poster child for why we need reform. It proves to Congress why they have to act," she said.

Greg Jacob, policy director of the Service Women's Action Network and a former Marine infantry officer, was likewise taken aback.

"It's atrocious. It's infuriating," he said. "It's a perfect example of the due process system being overridden just at the whim of the commander. It's a real travesty of justice.

"Now suddenly he's not guilty? If there's a sexual assault in this guy's unit after he shows up, do you think anyone's going to report it?"

The case has also outraged legislators and is expected to be examined at a congressional hearing later this month.

"We're going to do a press conference on this case," said Rep. Jackie Speier, a California Democrat who last year introduced a bill to create a new department within the Defense Department to handle sexual assault cases. The bill required sexual assault prosecutions to be handled by military and civilian experts and removed commander authority. That would inject professionalism into the process and remove commander conflicts of interest, she said.

She said she would reintroduce the legislation this year, that the idea was gaining traction, and that the Wilkerson case would further propel the idea.

"It's a mockery of the UCMJ (Uniform Code of Military Justice) and the entire sense of military justice," she said. "There always is a tipping point."

**Franklin's decision to set aside the verdict freed Wilkerson after four months in a South Carolina brig, erased his conviction and restored the F-16 pilot, who'd been selected for promotion, to full-duty status.**

Franklin, the authority who convened the court-martial, had concluded in his post-trial review that the evidence did not prove Wilkerson's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, according to a Third Air Force statement.

**The decision was contrary to the recommendation of his staff legal adviser.**

**Franklin is also an F-16 pilot and formerly commanded the 31st Fighter Wing to which Wilkerson was assigned.**

Wilkerson, 44, the former 31st Fighter Wing inspector general was accused last March by a 49-year-old physician's assistant of groping her breasts and vagina as she slept in a guest bedroom at the Wilkerson home after an impromptu party.

An all-male jury of four colonels and one lieutenant colonel convicted him of aggravated sexual assault after a weeklong trial in November at Aviano Air Base, Italy.

The jury sentenced him to dismissal, total pay forfeiture and a year in jail.

Franklin's decision to overturn that in effect conveyed that the jury, guided in the law by the presiding judge, had made a serious mistake, military lawyers said.

"If the CA (convening authority) has such little faith in the rulings of the MJ (military judge) and their effect on the reliability of the trial's outcome, why make the CW (complaining witness) go through this whole trial?" said a poster on the National Institute of Military Justice's blog identified as an Air Force defense attorney. "I have to say this is the worst case for everybody."

Court-martial convening authorities have traditionally been imbued with vast discretionary powers unmatched by all parties in civilian criminal justice procedures.

They decide whether to bring charges and, conversely, may decide to throw them out after a judge or jury convicts a defendant.

They may not increase a sentence but they may reduce punishment, or dismiss charges or convictions "for any reason or no reason," according to the Rules for Courts-Martial.

That's been considered an integral part of command authority and "a core value of military justice," said Victor Hansen, vice-president of the National Institute of Military Justice.

"The rationale is that the commander has the best sense of what's appropriate, what's best for good order and discipline," said Hansen, a former Army lawyer who's now a law professor in Boston. "It's the commander's command and his responsibility."

**Franklin's stated reason for tossing the conviction — that Wilkerson's guilt had not been proved beyond a reasonable doubt — struck Hansen as among the least legitimate reasons imaginable, he said, because it substituted the general's**

**judgment about the facts of the case over that of jurors, who, unlike Franklin, were at the trial and able to observe witnesses.**

He also said it seemed likely to him that the decision undermined, rather than promoted, good order and discipline.

But the decision was “an outlier,” Hansen said, and he believed commanders, who shoulder absolute responsibility for their troops and their missions, should retain their discretionary powers. “The commander needs to have that authority,” he said.

The Wilkerson case could spur legislative action to change that, Hansen said. “This could be Exhibit A.”

Gen. Mark Welsh III, Air Force chief of staff, has stated repeatedly that the service would continue to press to change a culture that has enabled assaults, to provide protection and support to victims and bring justice to perpetrators.

A spokeswoman for Welsh said he would not comment on the Wilkerson case.

**The case, in which prosecutors won a conviction against a senior leader based on the credibility of a less powerful accuser and corroborating circumstantial evidence, had been hailed as evidence that the Air Force was intent on change.**

**“Here was a case where everything worked,” Jacob said. “And all of that work and all of that effort was negated by a single commander.”**

**Good-faith efforts to reduce the incidence of sexual assault are doomed, advocates maintain, without changing a system that gives the ultimate power to decide case outcomes to one person — one untrained in the law; biased by the very nature of his position, they say; and answerable to no one.**

Such a system is correctly seen as unfair and unreliable, they say.

“If you don’t fix the structural issues, you won’t have trust in the system,” Burke said. “And if you don’t have trust in the system, you’ll have continued, significant underreporting.

**“And if you have significant underreporting, you will not be incarcerating predators,” she said. “So you’ll continue to have a significant sexual predation problem.”**

Independent prosecutors should make charging decisions just as civilian prosecutors do, and juries and judges should determine verdicts and sentences, victims’ advocates say. Those would stand unless an appellate court deemed otherwise.

Decisions would rest with more than a single, supreme authority.

“You wouldn’t have some lieutenant general sitting in a leather chair reinstating convicted sex offenders with the stroke of a pen,” Jacob said.

---

## 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.”

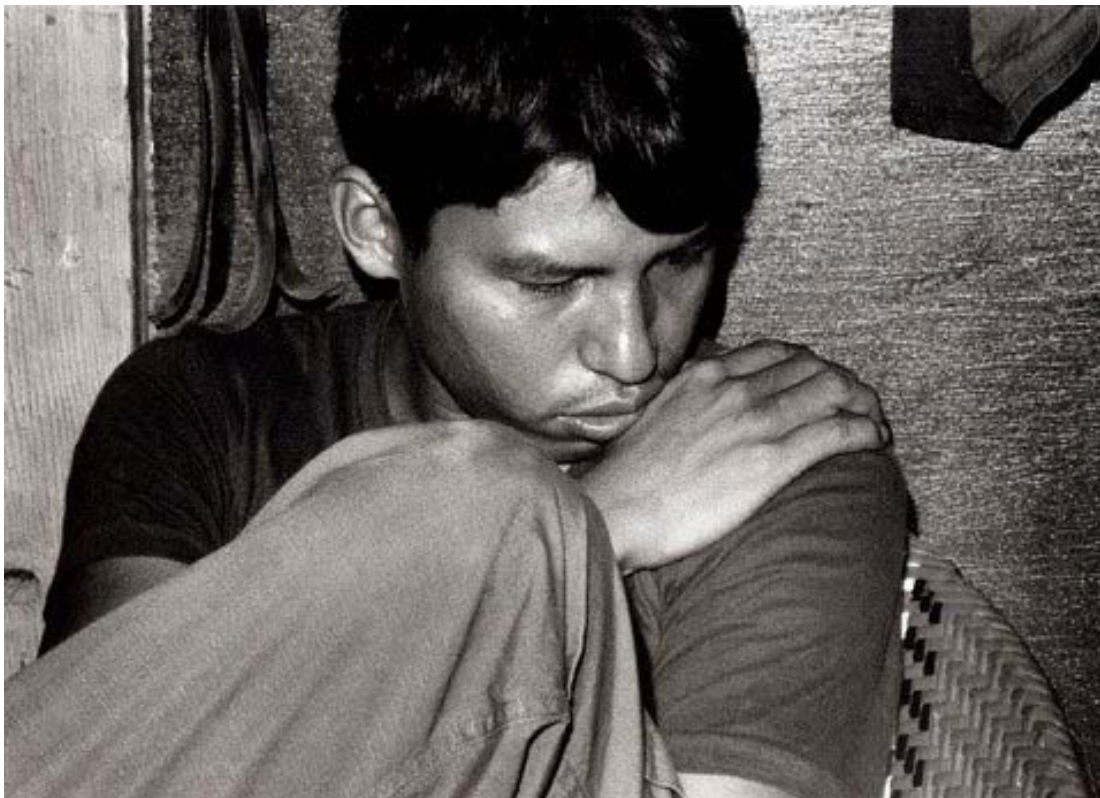
Frederick Douglass, 1852

Nothing has more revolutionary effect, and nothing undermines more the foundations of all state power, than the continuation of that wretched and brainless régime, which has the strength merely to cling to its positions but no longer the slightest power to rule or to steer the state ship on a definite course.  
-- Karl Kautsky; ‘The Consequences of the Japanese Victory and Social Democracy’

**Military Resistance In PDF Format?**

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

# Moment of Truth Moment of Panic



Fellow medic in An Khe, Vietnam. Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: March 04, 2013 2:36 PM  
Subject: Moment of Truth--Moment of Panic

## **Moment of Truth--Moment of Panic**

**The absolute greatest revelation I had when I came back from Vietnam, was the profound realization that I was the enemy in Vietnam.**

**Mike Hastie  
Army Medic Vietnam**

**Photo and caption from the portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact at: [hastiemike@earthlink.net](mailto:hastiemike@earthlink.net)) T)**

## ANNIVERSARIES

### **March 7, 1932 -- Bloody Work: Five Ford Workers Killed And Nineteen Wounded By Police And Company “Security” Armed With Pistols, Rifles And A Machine Gun**



Carl Bunin Peace History March 3-9

**The Ford Hunger March began on Detroit’s East Side and proceeded 10 miles seeking relief during the Great Depression.**

Facing hunger and evictions, workers had formed neighborhood Unemployed Councils. Along the route, the marchers were given good wishes from Detroit Mayor Frank Murphy as well as two motorcycle escorts, and thousands joined the marchers along the route.

At the Detroit city limit, the marchers were met by Dearborn police and doused by fire hoses.

Despite the cold weather, they continued to the Employment Office of the Ford River Rouge plant, from which there had been massive layoffs.

**Five workers were killed and nineteen wounded by police and company “security” armed with pistols, rifles and a machine gun.**

According to Dave Moore, one of the marchers, “That blood was black blood and white blood.

One of the photos that was published in the Detroit Times, but never seen since, shows a black woman, Mattie Woodson, wiping the blood off the head of Joe DiBlasio, a white man who lay there dying . . . It's been 75 years, but when you drive down Miller Road today, your car tires will be moistened with the blood that those five shed.”

Grave markers with the words “His Life for the Union” pay tribute to them in Woodmere Cemetery on Detroit’s West Side.

---

## **March 7, 1965: Noble Anniversary: The First March From Selma: A Day That That Shook The World**



Alabama police attack Selma-to-Montgomery marchers

Carl Bunin Peace History; Americaslibrary.gov [Excerpts]

March 7, 1965

When 525 people started a planned march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday March 7, 1965, it was called a demonstration. When state troopers met the demonstrators at the edge of the city by the Edmund Pettus Bridge, that day became known as “Bloody Sunday.”

In Selma, African Americans made up almost half the population, but only two percent were registered voters. Discrimination and intimidation tactics aimed at blacks kept them from registering and voting. The demonstrators marched to demand fairness in voter registration.

The sheriff warned the people that they had two minutes to break up the march, but the deputies attacked sooner. The demonstrators were tear-gassed, clubbed, spat on, whipped, trampled by horses, and jeered by others for demanding the right to register to vote.

Television and newspapers carried pictures of the event that became known as “Bloody Sunday.”

The images sickened, outraged, and electrified people throughout the country.

Within 48 hours, demonstrations in support of the marchers were held in 80 cities. Many of the nation’s religious and lay leaders, including Martin Luther King, flew to Selma. After one more failed attempt, King led a peaceful march from Selma to Montgomery. Congress responded to these events by enacting the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



### **Troops Invited:**

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

## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

**Happy Apartheid Week:  
“Palestinian Workers Are Forbidden  
To Travel In ‘Our’ Buses – Even In  
The Back, And Standing”**



## “Soldiers Order All The Palestinians To Get Off”



Soldiers and police remove workers from bus at Oranit Terminal



“They are then marched to the terminal fence and made to stand along it in a line, then to sit on the cold ground and wait.”

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

**I should note that the First Sergeant answered my questions as the law requires when I asked his name and rank, but he immediately declared that my questions were “causing agitation” and that “pretty soon” I too would find myself spending a few hours in the nearby police station.**

1 March 2013 By Ofra Lyth, The Occupation Magazine

I arrived at 4 PM at the bus terminal (near what is called the “Shomron Gate Junction”). Until five it looked like nothing was going to happen. Blessed boredom. Travellers get on and get off, including some who look like Palestinians.

A military vehicle behind the bus honked with pointless violence and suddenly activated a siren, surely that was nothing more than the simple boorishness of the soldiers who are the lords of the land.

At five o'clock sharp the action begins: a policeman, First Sergeant Shai Zecharia, portentously boards bus 286, which is stopped at the station.

Soldiers order all the Palestinians to get off. Right away they collect their ID cards upon their exit from the bus. That way they can't go anywhere until they get permission.

Nearly thirty workers, ages 30-50, obediently file out. The soldier/officer roars: “Udrub!” (Move!) And then: “Sit on your butts! On your butts!”

They are then marched to the terminal fence and made to stand along it in a line, then to sit on the cold ground and wait.

The soldiers check the green IDs (Arabic: hawwiye) and demand to see their “tasrih” (work permits). A lucky few get their IDs back and board another bus – complaining only about having to pay twice for the same trip.

**But our forces immediately block this channel: one by one the workers are told to leave the terminal and walk to the Azoun-Atme checkpoint, 2.5 kilometres from the Shomron Gate junction.**

By now it's cold; the sun has set.

Most of them got up at three in the morning for the trip to work.

**Their homes are only a few kilometres from nearby Ariel. All they ask is to be allowed to ride the bus for another two or three stops. They paid for the trip.**

**And by the way, a “tasrih” costs 8,000 shekels. You have to work hard to cover that sum before you earn your first shekel.**

The soldiers nabbed four workers who had dared to work without a “tasrih”. The short one venomously says, “They can spend some time in the Yoav fortress.”

Then the next consignment arrives, about another 25 workers. The armed and heroic little guy is soon shoving them with both hands. The procedure is repeated: "Udrub", on your butts, hawiyye, tasrih.

Now move it to Azoun-Atme.

Within half an hour about eighty men have been subjected to this humiliation by a few armed soldiers and one policeman.

They all responded with restraint and dismay, at most asking the obvious questions and now and then getting enlightening replies, such as:

**"You're not allowed to be on Highway 5."**

**At long last: official confirmation that there are apartheid highways in Israel, despite all the denials.**

**"You're not allowed to use public transportation at all."**

First Sergeant Zecharia provided the following crucial information to one of the older Palestinians: It's better to travel in the special vans and not in Israeli buses.

**Palestinians claim that there has been an unwritten commercial alliance between some in the security forces and the Bedouins who operate the vans, which cost five times as much as the buses for short trips.**

For a trip of a few minutes, each one of them pays one or two hour's wages.

**I should note that the First Sergeant answered my questions as the law requires when I asked his name and rank, but he immediately declared that my questions were "causing agitation" and that "pretty soon" I too would find myself spending a few hours in the nearby police station.**

On the way back, via the Ayalon Highway, my heart goes out to the thousands of Israelis who are delayed on the way home in Thursday evening traffic jams.

Questions and thoughts:

**How many hundreds of Palestinians gone through this permanent institutionalized harassment this evening, at the end of a work week during which they cleaned, built, plastered and paved our Homeland?**

What is the idea behind this harassment?

**How is it that workers represent no "security risk" in Tel Aviv and Rishon LeZion from morning to evening, but their presence on a bus on the way home is a matter that requires the armed intervention of the soldiers of the "Israel Defence Force"?**

Should not those who are constantly warning us that the Third Intifada will break out any moment have an interest in obedient and industrious workers being allowed to get home in peace?

(Incidentally, I have heard this observation from the workers, who may be poor but are by no means stupid)

And furthermore: when a woman is told to “sit in the back” of a bus full of Haredim, Israeli society responds with anger and revulsion and we demand that the instigators of this obscurantist discrimination be stopped.

But Palestinian workers are forbidden to travel in “our” buses – even in the back, and standing. And that is quite all right legally – unless something is very, very wrong with the law.

How fitting it is this evening to excoriate the unknown judge who beat his unfortunate children, and the judicial system that did not deal with him severely.

Because, as everybody knows, civilization, progress, human rights, the rights of the child and equality before the law are our guiding principles.

Happy Apartheid Week to “all” of you!

**MORE:**

## **Buses Of Company Operating Segregated ‘Palestinian’ Bus Lines Burned: Palestinians Turned Away From Previously ‘Mixed’ Buses**

03.05.13 by Raanan Ben-Zur, Ynet

Following the uproar against its ‘Palestinian-only’ West Bank bus lines, two Afikim company buses caught fire on Monday night in Kfar Qassem.

There were no reports of injury, and the police are investigating suspicions of arson.

Due to the incident, the company’s drivers were asked to remove all buses from the Arab town, fearing similar occurrences in light of the protest against the new bus lines.

**On Monday morning, a riot broke out at the exit point of the Eyal crossing, adjacent to Qalqilya, after numerous Palestinian laborers could not get to work within the Green Line.**

**They protested the fact that as of now, they must arrive at the crossing from far-off places in the West Bank since the new bus lines are their only means of entering central Israel.**

Israel launched two Palestinian-only bus lines in the West Bank on Monday, a step an Israeli rights group described as racist and which the Transport Ministry called an improvement in service.

The ministry opened the lines, to be used by Palestinian laborers travelling between the West Bank and Israel, after settlers complained that Palestinians on mixed buses were a security risk.

According to drivers, Palestinians will be turned away from previously 'mixed' buses.

---

## **Zionist Schutzmannschaft Attack Schoolchildren In Occupied Jerusalem**

March 04, 2013 by Saed Bannoura - IMEMC & Agencies

Sunday March 3, 2013; a group of fundamentalist Israeli settlers assaulted three Palestinian schoolchildren in Jaba' village, north of occupied East Jerusalem.

The three are brothers; this is the second attack against them since Thursday.

Mahmoud Abu Ghaya, a resident of the Al-Jahaleen Bedouin village, stated that the settlers attacked three schoolchildren while walking to school inflicting various injuries.

**The army arrived at the scene and prevented Yahia Habayeb, a local reporter working for the Ajjal Radio, from documenting the attack, and confiscated his camera.**

**Abu Ghaya added that Bedouin families in the area have been repeatedly attacked; adding that most attacks targeted schoolchildren.**

**Mohammad Ka'abna, the father of the three children, stated that the settlers have also attacked his children Bayan, 6, Amer and Ali, 9, last Thursday, and added that the settlers came from the Adam illegal settlement.**

He further stated that one of his children is refusing to go to school fearing additional attacks by the settlers.

---

## **Heroic Zionist Forces Battle A Palestinian Shepherd, His Two Baby Goats And A Donkey**

March 04, 2013 By Amira Hass, Haaretz

If it weren't for the nudniks of Ta'ayush – a group of Israelis active in the southern West Bank – this story would be yet another unwritten chapter in the chronicles of the hostile rule, another grain of dust from the daily fallout of toxins we're addicted to.

But for the Ta'ayush nudniks – this time Ezra Nawi and a man named Guy – this isn't a tiny story because it's a big deal for Kamel Mahamra, a shepherd from the village of Maghayir al-Abeed in the South Hebron Hills.

And it's a big deal for a she-goat and her two kids, born on February 18, in the hills and green pastures near the village of Al-Majaz.

**Two and half hours after the kids were born a group of soldiers, probably serving at the Nahal base at Krayot (not in the West Bank), showed up and confiscated the goat and two newborn kids, loading them on their Hummer.**

**Mahamra's donkey, which had been harnessed to a water container on wheels, disappeared too.**

**Under heavy pressure from Ezra and Guy, I sent a question the next day to the Israel Defense Forces Spokesman's Office with the details above.**

**"Ezra Nawi of Ta'ayush spoke by phone with the humanitarian hotline and the district coordination office, and one of the DCO's officers finally told him that soldiers had indeed confiscated the animals," I wrote.**

**"At one stage, Nawi and Mahamra were told the goat and kids had been returned to the area, but this morning they were nowhere to be found."**

Nawi says several dozen people called the office asking about the goat, the kids and the donkey after he posted the story on Facebook along with the telephone numbers of the DCO's officers.

After describing the event I asked the IDF Spokesman's Office: "Was there an order to confiscate the animals or did the soldiers decide on site? Why were the animals confiscated? Do the soldiers know how to take care of kids so they won't die? Do the soldiers intend to return the animals to their rightful owner? The High Court of Justice has ruled that the army must not harm residents in the area (firing range 918) until a further ruling is issued. Isn't the confiscation a breach of the High Court order?"

The IDF Spokesman's Office responded as follows: "The claims raised do an injustice to the truth of the matter. In this case, a shepherd entered a closed firing zone with the aim of stealing ammunition. The animals weren't confiscated but were brought by the IDF forces to the tent area from which the shepherd came in order to return them to their owner."

Let's have a look at this response.

"An injustice to the truth of the matter," meaning that Kamel, Ezra and Guy are lying.

“Closed firing zone.” The fate of the 918 area (a 30,000-dunam area where the defense minister ordered the demolition of eight of 12 villages to let the IDF prepare for its next wars), is still being debated by the High Court of Justice.

Until the court rules in favor of justice or arms, the IDF is not supposed to alter the status quo in this area where people live, shepherds lead their flocks, goats graze, kids are born, wheat is grown and the Civil Administration issues demolition orders.

In other words, at this point in time, Israel’s High Court of Justice is still allowing Mahamra to raise his livestock just as his forefathers did.

It is still allowing his goats to have kids.

“The aim of stealing ammunition.”

**In other words, the shepherd Mahamra is not only a liar, but also a thief, and a very stupid or brave thief at that.**

**Not only did he plan to steal ammunition in broad daylight, he planned to do so with a flock of goats and newborn kids tied like weights to his feet, preventing him from fleeing swiftly after the theft.**

**The soldiers are mind readers and guessed what he was planning to do, since he didn’t actually steal ammunition.**

**The soldiers are kindhearted.**

**Every day the IDF arrests Palestinians suspected of trying to carry out evil deeds.**

**A plan to steal ammunition could easily turn into a plan to kidnap a soldier and lead to a Shin Bet interrogation, which could last 20 days.**

**This could include tying the suspect to a chair and depriving him of sleep, producing a confession that the shepherd was actually dreaming of getting rid of the occupying power, a very serious crime under military law.**

**But this time the soldiers let him off the hook.**

**Did the mind-reading soldiers actually decide to punish him for his evil intent by “not confiscating” the two newborn kids, the goat and the donkey?**

**A logical leap and a missing verb.**

**The soldiers did not confiscate the animals and then delivered them to one of the encampments.**

But to bring them there, they had to first take them, and according to the IDF Spokesman’s Office, they did not confiscate them and did not even take them.

“IDF forces.”

This sounds much better than just “soldiers” because “soldiers” implies boredom, lack of sleep and sore feet. IDF forces are those that “return without casualties” or “return safely.”

**How about the goat, the kids and the donkey? Did they return safely?**

**They did if one believes the IDF spokesman’s response.**

**The fact that Kamel, Ezra and Guy say they didn’t, and that all their searches were in vain, doesn’t mean anything because the spokesman already implied that they’re all liars.**

---

## **Plague Of Locusts From Egypt Attacks Israel**

06 Mar 2013 NEWSMAXWORLD.COM

KEMEHIN, Israel — Israel on Wednesday began battling a swarm of locusts from Egypt on Wednesday to prevent crop damage in the south of the country.

Locust clouds darkened skies some three weeks before the Jewish Passover holiday that recalls 10 Biblical plagues, one of them locusts, that struck Egypt during the exodus of Israelite slaves.

The insects covered nearly 2,000 acres (800 hectares) of desert overnight, officials said. Israel sprayed pesticides from the air and land to try to kill them in the early morning before dew on their wings dried and they could take off again.

Miriam Freund, director of plant protection in the Agriculture Ministry, called it a “medium-sized swarm” and her office set up a hotline for farmers to call in case they see it advance.

“We hope our actions are effective,” one of the pilots of a plane spraying the fields said on Army Radio. “Let’s hope the damage will be minimal.”

Potato farmer Pavel Rosenfeld, who lives about 3 km (2 miles) from the Egyptian border, said 30 to 40 percent of his land had already been damaged.

“Everything depends on the wind . . . and we are praying that the wind doesn’t bring us more,” he said on Army Radio.

**[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.”]**

---



# DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

Somebody Change the Sequester Baby



# CLASS WAR REPORTS



# **Hundreds Storm Iraq Oilfield Office Demanding Jobs: “Most Of The Foreign And Local Staff Left The Field As A Safety Measure”**

March 4, 2013 Al-Akhbar

Hundreds of protesters broke into Iraq's giant southern West Qurna-2 oilfield, developed by Russia's LUKOIL, early on Monday, sources from the field, police and the state-run Southern Oil Co. said.

Iraqi oil police called in the army to help restore order after the protesters stormed offices and smashed up surveillance cameras, demanding jobs. Construction work at the site was affected.

"At least 400 angry protesters breached the main gate and broke into West Qurna oilfield," an official at West Qurna Phase 2 told Reuters. "Most of the foreign and local staff left the field as a safety measure and work was significantly affected."

Police sources said the protesters trashed the offices of an Iraqi company hired by Samsung Engineering before trying to break into the South Korean builder's headquarters, throwing stones at the main gate.

Police and security guards held them back.

"Protesters were on a rampage. They were asking for jobs. We got scared and left and escaped to other headquarters in Basra," a West Qurna worker told Reuters.

Samsung has a major contract with Russia's Lukoil to build crude facilities at West Qurna-2, which is the world's second-largest undeveloped field with recoverable oil reserves of around 14 billion barrels, according to LUKOIL.

The Samsung contract, worth \$998 million, involves construction of an oil export pipeline, a tank farm, a power station and a gas processing plant, and also an oil gathering system, central processing facilities and a water supply system.

Iraq has an estimated unemployment rate of 16 percent, with 11 percent of its population under the poverty threshold.

## **MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL**

**If you wish to receive Military Resistance immediately and directly, send request to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org). There is no subscription charge.**

# Military Resistance [www.militaryproject.org](http://www.militaryproject.org)

*This is how Obama brings the troops home,  
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.*



*Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members  
[www.militaryproject.org](http://www.militaryproject.org)*

## **Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out**

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

<http://www.militaryproject.org> . The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others: <http://williambowles.info/military-resistance-archives/>; [news@uruknet.info](mailto:news@uruknet.info); <http://www.scribd.com/>

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: [law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml](http://law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml) for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

---

**If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.**