

Military Resistance 11G8



**“Today Officially Ended
Denmark’s 12-Year Involvement
In The War In Afghanistan”
“The Final Danish Combat Troops
Left Camp Price In Helmand
Province Earlier Today”
Denmark “Decided In March To
Accelerate The Process In Light Of
The Fact That British Troops Were
Also Being Called Home Early”
“The Defence Spokesperson For
Coalition Party Radikale, Said That The
War Was A Mistake And That Soldiers
Were Sent On The ‘Wrong’ And
‘Impossible’ Mission”**

July 22, 2013 by Justin Cremer, Copenhagen Post

Danish combat troops left Camp Price in Helmand province earlier today, putting an end to 12 years of war

Today officially ended Denmark’s 12-year involvement in the War in Afghanistan.

The final Danish combat troops left Camp Price in Helmand province earlier today, the military base that has served as their home for the past six years.

The dozen years in Afghanistan cost the lives of 43 Danish soldiers and resulted in total costs of approximately 15 billion kroner. An additional 211 soldiers were injured in Afghanistan.

Denmark originally planned to withdraw its troops by the end of 2014, but decided in March to accelerate the process in light of the fact that British troops were also being called home early.

"Denmark is one of the countries that have carried the toughest load in Afghanistan, and Danish soldiers have been on the front line since 2002," Thorning-Schmidt said in March when announcing the summer exit. "They have provided an invaluable service for our safety and they have been part of helping the Afghans take care of their own security."

The final soldiers leave Afghanistan with questions swirling back home over whether Denmark's involvement in the war was worth the costs.

Earlier this month, Zenia Stampe, the defence spokesperson for coalition party Radikale, said that the war was a mistake and that soldiers were sent on the "wrong" and "impossible" mission of introducing democracy to Afghanistan.

Even Per Stig Møller (Konservative), the foreign minister when Denmark entered the war, admitted over the weekend that "of course it didn't go like we had wished".

According to military figures, Denmark sent 9,500 personnel to Afghanistan between January 2002 and 1 July 2013. Although the last combat troops have now left Afghanistan, a number of Danish defence personnel will remain in the country in order to train the Afghan police force and to man special units and tanks. According to reporting by Politiken newspaper, the roughly 300 Danish soldiers who will remain in Helmand province will participate in combat if necessary but will have the primary focus of securing the withdrawal of other Western forces between now and the end of 2014.

Those who left Camp Price today are expected to be back in Denmark within two weeks.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

AFGHANISTAN THEATER

“US Foreign Fighters Suffered 140 Combat Casualties In The Week Ending July 17 As The Total Rose To 39,714”

July 18, 2013 www.michaelmunk.com [Excerpts]

US foreign fighters in the AfPak theater under Commander-in-Chief Obama suffered 144 casualties in the week ending July 17 as the official casualty total for the Iraq and AfPak wars* rose to 121,031

The total includes 81,317 casualties since the US invaded Iraq in March, 2003 (Operations "Iraqi Freedom" and "New Dawn"), and 39,714 since the US invaded Afghanistan in November, 2001 (Operation "Enduring Freedom")

AFGHANISTAN THEATER: US foreign fighters suffered 140 combat casualties in the week ending July 17 as the total rose to 39,714

The total includes 20,769 dead and wounded from what the Pentagon classifies as "hostile" causes and 18,945 dead or medically evacuated (as of Dec. 3, 2012) from what it calls "non-hostile" causes.

US media divert attention from the actual cost in American life and limb by reporting regularly only the total killed (6,734; 4,488 in Iraq, 2,246 in Afghanistan) but rarely mentioning those wounded in action (51,227; 32,222 in Iraq; 19,005 in Afghanistan)

They ignore the 59,908 (44,607 in Iraq, 18,463 in AfPak) (as of Dec 3, 2012) military casualties injured and ill seriously enough to be medevac'd out of theater, even though the 6,734 total dead include 1,441 (961 in Iraq, 482 in Afghanistan) who died from those same "non hostile" causes, of whom almost 25% (332) were suicides (as of Jan 9, 2013) and at least 18 in Iraq from faulty KBR electrical work.

NOTE: It's unclear whether the AfPak number for WIAs at some point started to include medical evacuations for non hostile injuries and disease.

Greenfield Soldier Killed In Afghanistan

Jun 25, 2013 By Tom Miller, KSBW

GREENFIELD, Calif. —The Department of Defense announced the death of an Army soldier from Greenfield who was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

Spc. Javier Sanchez Jr., 28, of Greenfield, died June 23 in Sar Rowzah, Afghanistan, from wounds he suffered when his unit was attacked with an improvised explosive device while on mounted patrol.

He was assigned to the Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y.

Jazmin Sanchez said her cousin joined the military because he loved his country.

"I think it was his way of protecting all of us, the people he loved, the whole country," she told KSBW's Tom Miller on Monday. "I remember talking to him two weeks ago and he was telling me that he was going to go back on mission. I wished him good luck, and he said he was doing it to kill all the bad guys."

"He was great. He always played with us he was someone who always wanted to have fun," Jazmin Sanchez said.

Javier Sanchez is survived by his wife, mother, father and two siblings.

He met his wife, Cassandra, while training in Southern California and they were married for less than a year.

After enlisting two years ago, he was assigned to the Special Troops Battalion based out of Ft. Drum, New York.

"He always had this 'country first' attitude and I think that's what made him sign up," said his uncle, Fernando Vicente.

Before leaving on his 2nd tour, Javier Sanchez stopped by his uncle's house and told him he was eager to return to the war zone.

"He seemed pretty confident about going back so I will always remember him because that's the last time my wife and kids saw him," Vicente said.

Javier Sanchez was keenly aware of the risk and danger that went along with his job. "One of the friends who joined with him died two years ago, also from Greenfield, so I'm sure he knew the risks but he was bound to serve his country," Vicente said.

His family said it plans on hosting an open casket viewing in Soledad and a memorial in Greenfield later this week.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

Resistance Action



[Graphic: flickr.com/photos]

2013-07-22 Xinhua

Four Afghan army soldiers were killed and one was wounded Monday when their vehicle was hit by a Taliban roadside bombing in the country's southern province of Zabul, the provincial police chief said.

"One Afghan National Army vehicle ran over an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Shahjoy district at around 10 a.m. local time. Four ANA personnel were martyred and one was wounded," Ghulam Sakhi Rogh Lewani told Xinhua.

Unexploded Ordnance Killing And Maiming Afghan Civilians As U.S. Abandons Bases:

“Marshall Said That ISAF Has Done Little More Than Dodge Blame And Offer Excuses”

“Officials Have Failed To Give The Locations Of Firing Ranges On The Closed Bases, What Methods They Used To Clean Them Up Or Where Fighting Took Place That Inevitably Would Have Left Other Unexploded Ordnance Behind”

She said one American colonel even suggested that Afghan children had moved non-NATO ordnance onto a NATO firing range, where it then detonated. U.S. officials did not address her charge.

July 18, 2013 By Jay Price, McClatchy Foreign Staff [Excerpts]

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S.-led coalition is failing to clear unexploded munitions from the Afghan bases it's demolishing as it withdraws its combat forces, leaving a deadly legacy that has killed and maimed a growing number of civilians, United Nations demining officials charge.

Grenades and shells left on the firing ranges where troops practiced with their weapons, and munitions fired at or from the bases that didn't initially explode, have killed more

than 50 civilians in nine provinces since 2008, nearly all of them in 2012 and this year, after the base closings began in earnest, said Mohammad Sediq Rashid, director of the Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan.

His organization coordinates demining across Afghanistan and falls under the U.N.'s Mine Action Service Office.

And those are just the cases in which the U.N. has specific details about the location of the ordnance.

Broadly, in 2012 there were 363 civilian casualties in Afghanistan – or about 30 per month – that were attributed primarily to unexploded ordnance, though in some cases also to mines, Rashid said. For the first half of this year, there have been 241 such casualties, an increase of about 10 per month, he said.

Abigail Hartley, the program manager for the U.N. mine office, said she firmly believes that the increase in casualties is because of the so-called “explosive remnants of war” left in and around the closed bases and ranges.

“The international military is supposed to be here protecting civilians and basically as a result of their presence, civilians are getting killed,” Hartley said.

The failure of the American-led International Security Assistance Force to undertake a proper cleanup is a violation of its obligations under the 1980 Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Hartley said.

ISAF has standard procedures in place to remove unexploded ordnance from firing ranges at its bases throughout Afghanistan, John Manley, an ISAF spokesman, wrote in an emailed statement Thursday in response to questions about left-behind ordnance.

“These procedures include mitigating ranges that are no longer in use,” he wrote. “Safety of civilians is one of our highest priorities.”

Hartley said her office has asked to see these standard procedures but hasn't received them, and also has received no evidence of any cleanup.

Sarah Marshall, the deputy program manager of the U.N. mine office, said she and other officials have been meeting with ISAF officials for nearly two months trying to get more information on the closed bases and any cleanup efforts, but they have made little progress.

“And at a rate of 10 additional casualties a month, I'd say that two months is a long time,” she said.

In late 2011 there were about 800 U.S. and NATO facilities across Afghanistan, according to ISAF figures. More than 600 of them, mostly tiny bases used by a few dozen troops or less, already had been shut down or handed over to the Afghan government by the beginning of 2013, when the focus began shifting to larger bases.

Some of those closed had large, formal firing ranges with built-up berms, others had informal areas used for practice and sighting in weapons.

In many cases, those killed or injured around the bases are collecting scrap metal, grazing livestock or collecting firewood, Rashid said.

“As soon as a base is abandoned, it’s well known that people will rush towards it to find scrap metal to sell,” he said.

At a former base north of Kabul near Bagram Air Field, eight civilians were hurt in an explosion on a firing range in January. A U.N.-funded clearance team pulled more than 400 pieces of ordnance off that site, Rashid said.

Another U.N.-funded team is in the middle of cleaning up what it believes to be the firing range for the recently closed New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team on the edge of the town of Bamiyan in central Afghanistan, the U.N. mine office said. So far, the U.N. team, which is still working at the site, has found more than 500 pieces of ordnance.

The New Zealand military said it cleaned up its range but declined to give the range’s coordinates, Hartley said. Local officials in Bamiyan said the site in question was indeed the New Zealand range, Rashid said.

The unexploded munitions found include 40mm high-explosive grenades, hand grenades, mortar rounds and other shells that are clearly of NATO origin, he said.

In meetings, ISAF officials have failed to give the locations of firing ranges on the closed bases, what methods they used to clean them up or where fighting took place that inevitably would have left other unexploded ordnance behind, Marshall said.

If the U.N. mine office knew the pertinent locations, it could not only do surveys of the ordnance, but also educate locals on the dangers, she said.

Marshall said that ISAF has done little more than dodge blame and offer excuses when confronted with the U.N. findings.

International coalition officials insist they’ve cleaned up the abandoned bases properly, but they offer no proof and blame deaths and injuries on leftovers from earlier wars, she said.

Marshall also said ISAF officials dispute the U.N. casualty data and argue about the location of some the incidents, saying the U.N. couldn’t prove they were on ranges or in proximity to bases.

She said one American colonel even suggested that Afghan children had moved non-NATO ordnance onto a NATO firing range, where it then detonated. U.S. officials did not address her charge.

ISAF officials said that since many bases are turned over to Afghan security forces that need firing ranges, it makes no sense to clean them up, Hartley said.

That's logical, she said, but ISAF also has used that explanation for a failure to dispose of unexploded ordnance at bases that were simply demolished and turned into, say, farmland.

"The biggest question I have, is where are ISAF's (cleanup) reports?" Hartley said. "Instead of discrediting my data, prove to me that you've done the clearance and due diligence. I can give you statistics for every minefield that has been cleared this year, so why can't ISAF say how many square meters of firing range it has cleared, how many items it found, and what its process was for signing off on the work?"

MILITARY NEWS

“A New Figure On The U.S. Scene: The Warrior Cop— Armed To The Teeth, Ready To Deal Harshly With Targeted Wrongdoers, And A Growing Threat To Familiar American Liberties”

“There Was No Evidence That Mr. Stewart, A U.S. Military Veteran With No Prior Criminal Record, Was Selling Marijuana”

“Mr. Stewart's Father Said That His Son Suffered From Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder And May Have

Smoked The Marijuana To Self-Medicate”

“After Losing A Hearing Last May On The Legality Of The Search Warrant, Mr. Stewart Hanged Himself In His Jail Cell”

In my own research, I have collected over 50 examples in which innocent people were killed in raids to enforce warrants for crimes that are either nonviolent or consensual (that is, crimes such as drug use or gambling, in which all parties participate voluntarily).

July 19, 2013 By RADLEY BALKO, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

On Jan. 4 of last year, a local narcotics strike force conducted a raid on the Ogden, Utah, home of Matthew David Stewart at 8:40 p.m.

The 12 officers were acting on a tip from Mr. Stewart’s former girlfriend, who said that he was growing marijuana in his basement.

Mr. Stewart awoke, naked, to the sound of a battering ram taking down his door.

Thinking that he was being invaded by criminals, as he later claimed, he grabbed his 9-millimeter Beretta pistol.

The police say that they knocked and identified themselves, though Mr. Stewart and his neighbors said they heard no such announcement.

Mr. Stewart fired 31 rounds, the police more than 250. Six of the officers were wounded, and Officer Jared Francom was killed. Mr. Stewart himself was shot twice before he was arrested. He was charged with several crimes, including the murder of Officer Francom.

The police found 16 small marijuana plants in Mr. Stewart’s basement.

There was no evidence that Mr. Stewart, a U.S. military veteran with no prior criminal record, was selling marijuana.

Mr. Stewart’s father said that his son suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder and may have smoked the marijuana to self-medicate.

Early this year, the Ogden city council heard complaints from dozens of citizens about the way drug warrants are served in the city.

As for Mr. Stewart, his trial was scheduled for next April, and prosecutors were seeking the death penalty. But after losing a hearing last May on the legality of the search warrant, Mr. Stewart hanged himself in his jail cell.

The police tactics at issue in the Stewart case are no anomaly.

Since the 1960s, in response to a range of perceived threats, law-enforcement agencies across the U.S., at every level of government, have been blurring the line between police officer and soldier.

Driven by martial rhetoric and the availability of military-style equipment—from bayonets and M-16 rifles to armored personnel carriers—American police forces have often adopted a mind-set previously reserved for the battlefield.

The war on drugs and, more recently, post-9/11 antiterrorism efforts have created a new figure on the U.S. scene: the warrior cop—armed to the teeth, ready to deal harshly with targeted wrongdoers, and a growing threat to familiar American liberties.

A number of federal agencies also now have their own SWAT teams, including the Fish & Wildlife Service, NASA and the Department of the Interior.

In 2011, the Department of Education’s SWAT team bungled a raid on a woman who was initially reported to be under investigation for not paying her student loans, though the agency later said she was suspected of defrauding the federal student loan program.

When the craze for poker kicked into high gear, a number of police departments responded by deploying SWAT teams to raid games in garages, basements and VFW halls where illegal gambling was suspected.

According to news reports and conversations with poker organizations, there have been dozens of these raids, in cities such as Baltimore, Charleston, S.C., and Dallas.

In 2006, 38-year-old optometrist Sal Culosi was shot and killed by a Fairfax County, Va., SWAT officer. The investigation began when an undercover detective overheard Mr. Culosi wagering on college football games with some buddies at a bar.

The department sent a SWAT team after Mr. Culosi, who had no prior criminal record or any history of violence.

As the SWAT team descended, one officer fired a single bullet that pierced Mr. Culosi’s heart. The police say that the shot was an accident. Mr. Culosi’s family suspects the officer saw Mr. Culosi reaching for his cellphone and thought he had a gun.

In 2010, the police department in New Haven, Conn., sent its SWAT team to raid a bar where police believed there was underage drinking.

For sheer absurdity, it is hard to beat the 2006 story about the Tibetan monks who had overstayed their visas while visiting America on a peace mission. In Iowa, the hapless holy men were apprehended by a SWAT team in full gear.

In my own research, I have collected over 50 examples in which innocent people were killed in raids to enforce warrants for crimes that are either nonviolent or consensual (that is, crimes such as drug use or gambling, in which all parties participate voluntarily).

These victims were bystanders, or the police later found no evidence of the crime for which the victim was being investigated.

They include Katherine Johnston, a 92-year-old woman killed by an Atlanta narcotics team acting on a bad tip from an informant in 2006; Alberto Sepulveda, an 11-year-old accidentally shot by a California SWAT officer during a 2000 drug raid; and Eurie Stamps, killed in a 2011 raid on his home in Framingham, Mass., when an officer says his gun mistakenly discharged. Mr. Stamps wasn't a suspect in the investigation.

“VA Medical Leaders At Facilities In Those Cities Garnered More Than \$100,000 In Performance Bonuses During The Past Four Years — While Patients Were Dying From Preventable Illnesses”

Jul. 22, 2013 By Patricia Kime, Army Times Staff writer [Excerpts]

From January 2011 to November 2012, at least 21 patients at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System contracted Legionnaires' disease. Five died.

At the Atlanta VA Medical Center, three mental health patients died in 2011 and 2012, including a former Army paratrooper who killed himself in a hospital bathroom — the result of a system that did not “adequately oversee or monitor contracted patient care services,” according to the Veterans Affairs Department inspector general.

The Buffalo, N.Y., VA Medical Center in January revealed that more than 700 patients were exposed to infectious diseases when attendants reused insulin cartridges designed for single use. At least 18 veterans contracted hepatitis as a result.

And the list continues: chronic understaffing and improperly prescribed narcotics at the G.V. Sonny Montgomery VA Medical Center, Jackson, Miss.; surgeons performing procedures without clinical privileges at the Bill Hefner VA Medical Center, Salisbury, N.C.; a veteran committing “suicide by cop” a day after being improperly discharged from the Miami VA Healthcare System.

Yet according to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and Atlanta Journal Constitution, VA medical leaders at facilities in those cities garnered more than \$100,000 in performance

bonuses during the past four years — while patients were dying from preventable illnesses.

In Pittsburgh, where five veterans died after contracting Legionnaires' disease, Terry Gerigk Wolf, Pittsburgh Medical Center director, received the highest ratings possible on her performance evaluation in September 2012 and earned a bonus of \$12,924 in 2011.

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

**There is no democracy without socialism and no socialism without democracy.
-- Rosa Luxemburg**

Protecting U.S. Corporate Interests, One Person At A Time...



Photo by Mike Hastie

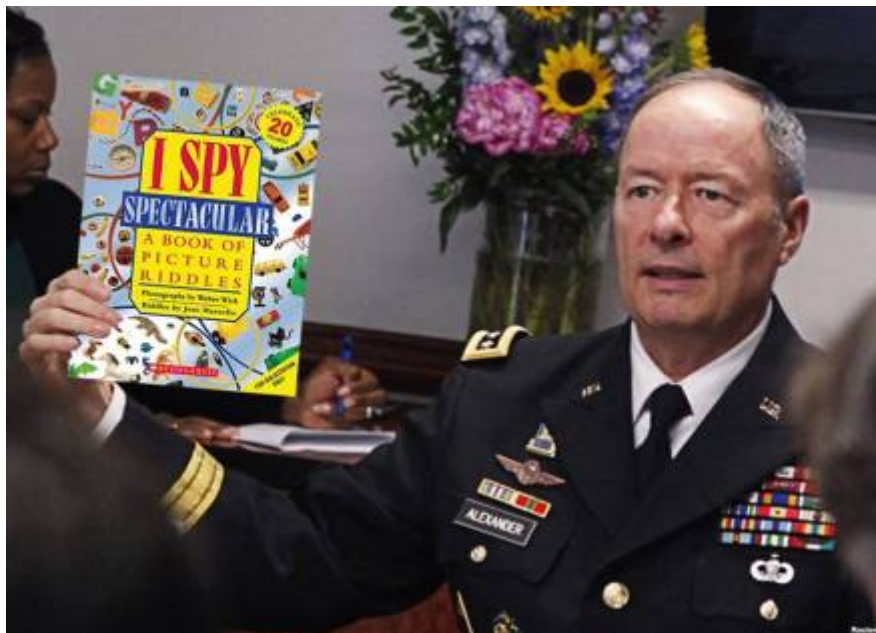
From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: June 30, 2013
Subject: Protecting U.S. Corporate Interests, one person at a time...

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) T)

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004

To Avoid Further Leaks, NSA Bans Intelligence



The only spying I'll be doing is for two thimbles and four birds of red," said Gen. Alexander.

July 22, 2013 by Juice Box, The Duffel Blog

FORT MEADE, MD – Amid growing public controversy and a slew of high-profile leaks, the National Security Agency announced Monday plans to bring an end to all of its intelligence functions and operations.

“You guys win,” a haggard NSA spokesperson told a room of reporters. “Thanks to you hyenas, I haven’t seen my kids since 2012. I’m tired and, frankly, I don’t give a shit anymore what we know or how we know it. Before any of you learns anything else about us from anybody, we’re going to make this easy. We quit intelligence. No more collection. No more analysis. Nothing.

“Starting today, I can assure you without caveat or hesitation that nothing intelligent is happening at the NSA.”

Indeed, sources confirm that all classified documents and computers have been removed from the agency’s Fort Meade headquarters and the clearances of more than 30,000 employees revoked.

“The equation is simple,” NSA Director Gen. Keith Alexander said to an audience at Washington’s Georgetown University. “Intelligence leads to leaks. Leaks lead to embarrassing exposés and public outrage, and public outrage leads to Congressional ass-rapings, which are the worst.”

“Better to get out while the getting’s good and while I’m still comfortable sitting down.”

Under an agency-wide rebranding initiative, Alexander explained that NSA employees will be expressly forbidden from engaging in defense-related work of any kind and encouraged, instead, to focus on other institutional core competencies, to include avoiding eye contact, mastering Dungeons & Dragons, and eating lunch alone.

“Let’s move on from this specter of an Orwellian security apparatus,” Alexander urged. “We’re not the enemy, we’re the nerds! And from now on, when people hear NSA, I want them to think only of the hopeless but affable social ineptitude that has characterized this organization since its inception.”

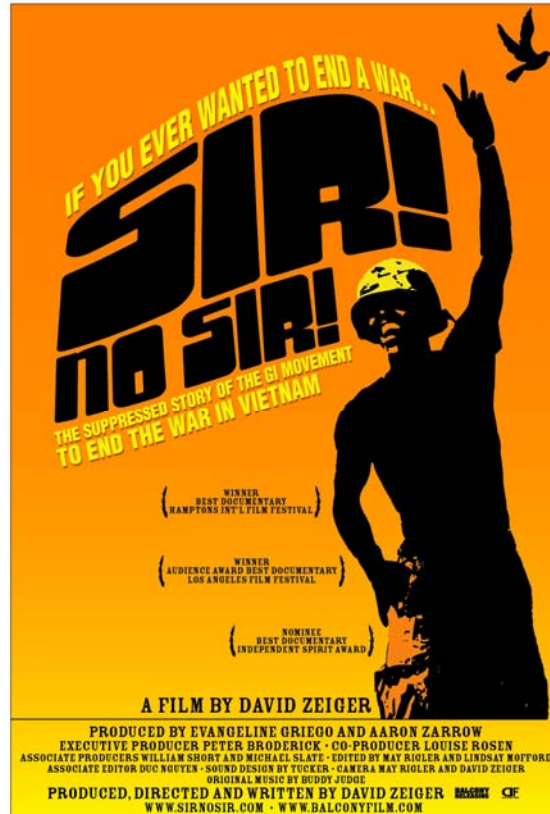
In laying out his vision for a post-intelligence NSA, Alexander was also careful to note that this cessation of intelligence activities was not just about avoiding leaks and Congress but about accountability to the American people.

“We want all Americans who were upset by these scandals to know that we hear them loud and clear,” he said. “Just not on their cell phones.”

While many will surely welcome the new direction, hawks in the Defense Department have warned of the increased possibility of terrorist attacks with NSA out of the picture.

Addressing these concerns, Alexander remarked that the jocks over at the Defense Intelligence Agency or any of the nation’s fourteen other intelligence organizations probably had it covered.

A Film All About How An Armed Forces Rebellion Stopped An Imperial War:



Sir! No Sir!:

Dear Sir! No Sir! supporters,

Displaced Films, Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW), and a growing number of organizations have been working to distribute free DVDs of Sir No Sir to soldiers.

Hundreds have been distributed and we want to see that number grow into the thousands.

The response has been tremendous.

David Zeiger and Jade Fox
Displaced Films
jadefox@sirnosir.com

To Whom it May Concern:

I just wanted to say thank you for this film, for raising my awareness, I never even knew some of these things happened.

I think this probably is one of the most important documentaries made about war resistance.

Thank you again,
SGT Spencer Batchelder

**BUY SIR! NO SIR! FOR ACTIVE DUTY
SOLDIERS NOW**

**HELP GET SIR! NO SIR!
INTO THE HANDS THAT NEED IT MOST**

The Sir! No Sir! DVD is on sale now, exclusively at
http://www.sirnosir.com/home_dvd_storefront.html

Also available is a Soundtrack CD (which includes the entire song from the FTA Show, "Soldier We Love You"), theatrical posters, tee shirts, and the DVD of "A Night of Ferocious Joy," a film about the first hip-hop antiwar concert against the "War on Terror."

**“Let Us Now Picture To Ourselves, By
Way Of Change, A Community Of Free
Individuals, Carrying On Their Work With
The Means Of Production In Common”**

Excerpt from Karl Marx. Capital Volume One; Chapter One: Commodities; Section 4 -
The Fetishism of Commodities and the Secret Thereof

Let us now picture to ourselves, by way of change, a community of free individuals, carrying on their work with the means of production in common, in which the labour power of all the different individuals is consciously applied as the combined labour power of the community.

The total product of our community is a social product.

One portion serves as fresh means of production and remains social.

But another portion is consumed by the members as means of subsistence. A distribution of this portion amongst them is consequently necessary. The mode of this distribution will vary with the productive organisation of the community, and the degree of historical development attained by the producers.

We will assume, but merely for the sake of a parallel with the production of commodities, that the share of each individual producer in the means of subsistence is determined by his labour time.

Labour time would, in that case, play a double part. Its apportionment in accordance with a definite social plan maintains the proper proportion between the different kinds of work to be done and the various wants of the community.

On the other hand, it also serves as a measure of the portion of the common labour borne by each individual, and of his share in the part of the total product destined for individual consumption.

The social relations of the individual producers, with regard both to their labour and to its products, are in this case perfectly simple and intelligible, and that with regard not only to production but also to distribution.

The life-process of society, which is based on the process of material production, does not strip off its mystical veil until it is treated as production by freely associated men, and is consciously regulated by them in accordance with a settled plan.

This, however, demands for society a certain material ground-work or set of conditions of existence which in their turn are the spontaneous product of a long and painful process of development.

TROOPS INVITED:

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

MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL

If you wish to receive Military Resistance immediately and directly, send request to contact@militaryproject.org. There is no subscription charge.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



RECEIVED:

“A Misleading Take On Stand Your Ground Laws.

From: John Spritzler
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: Re: Military Resistance 11G7: Stand Your Ground
Date: Jul 21, 2013

I greatly support your Military Resistance posts, and I posted the one about February, 1917 in Russia on my website [here](http://newdemocracyworld.org/revolution/military.html).
[<http://newdemocracyworld.org/revolution/military.html>]

But I'd just like to point out that while the cartoon about Stand Your Ground and Afghanistan gives a good take on the wrongness of the U.S. invasion, it gives a misleading take on Stand Your Ground laws.

The Florida SYG law only makes it legal to shoot in self-defense (instead of retreating) if one is shooting a person who is attacking one and who makes one reasonably fear death or great bodily harm; the key word is "attack." Of course the U.S. is attacking people in Afghanistan, but the cartoon only says "wasn't from around here, dressed

weird, figured that he was armed," which implies that the people who support SYG laws want to kill anybody they see who "wasn't from around here, dressed weird."

This wrong understanding of the SYG laws is promoted by people (like Obama in his recent talk to the nation) who want to make black people think ordinary white people are virtually all a bunch of KKK-type racists, which in turn is a big part of how the elite divide and rule the American people.

Here's my post on this to the newdemocracyworld.org list:

Obama tonight in his talk about Trayvon Martin said something that I didn't address in my article [<http://newdemocracyworld.org/culture/obama.html>] on his talk, but it was a sneaky little lie.

He said this about Stand Your Ground laws:

*...For those who resist that idea that we should think about something like these "stand your ground" laws, **I just ask people to consider if Trayvon Martin was of age and armed, could he have stood his ground on that sidewalk? And do we actually think that he would have been justified in shooting Mr. Zimmerman, who had followed him in a car, because he felt threatened?***

Obama wanted his listeners to think that the Stand Your Ground laws say it's ok to kill somebody just because they follow you in a car. Here's the very different wording of the Florida Stand Your Ground law with some key words highlighted by me in red:

A person is presumed to have held a reasonable fear of imminent peril of death or great bodily harm to himself or herself or another when using defensive force that is intended or likely to cause death or great bodily harm to another if:

*A person who is not engaged in an unlawful activity and **who is attacked** in any other place where he or she has a right to be has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and meet force with force, including deadly force if he or she **reasonably** believes it is necessary to do so to prevent death or great bodily harm to himself or herself or another or to prevent the commission of a forcible felony.*

Clearly, Trayvon Martin, contrary to what the president implied, would NOT be permitted by this law to shoot Mr. Zimmerman for following him in a car

What the law would do, however, is make it legal for Trayvon Martin to have shot Mr. Zimmerman had he attacked Martin with a knife or gun and made it reasonable for Martin to fear death or great bodily harm. How come the President had to lie about this? Is it because the law is not the problem [<http://dailycaller.com/2013/07/16/blacks-benefit-from-florida-stand-your-ground-law-at-disproportionate-rate/#ixzz2ZMOuE3aj>], his support for Big Business and the racist War on Terror is?

John Spritzler, editor
www.NewDemocracyWorld.org
& Facebook.com/NewDemocracyWorld

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?



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

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GOT A COMMENT?

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

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