

Military Resistance 12D13



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: "I think this sums up a lot of things pretty well."]

**East Ukrainian Civilian
Revolutionaries Greet Soldiers
Sent Against Them By Corrupt
Government Of Oligarchs With
Bread, Peace And Pickled
Gherkins:
"We Aren't Against Ukraine, But
We're Against This Government"**

**“Some Brought The Soldiers
Cigarettes, Water, And Food,
Including Cookies”**

**“Some Soldiers Perched On Vehicles
Winked At Girls Standing Nearby” “One
Man Lifted A Child Onto An Armored
Vehicle For A Photograph”**



Soldiers sit on their vehicles Wednesday after their convoy was blocked. Associated Press

Comment: T

Here are some of the most frightening words a corrupt government of capitalist oligarchs can hear: “Some of the soldiers were reservists who eagerly accepted the food and water offered to them.”

April 16, 2014 By James Marson, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

PCHYOLKINO, Ukraine—Dragging on a cigarette atop a rusting armored vehicle, a Ukrainian paratrooper struggled for words to describe his unit’s mission.

“We are sitting here,” ventured the 23-year-old reservist from nearby Dnipropetrovsk after a pause.

His unit of around a dozen armored military vehicles was blocked by some 300 civilians near the railroad-crossing in this village, which lies near the heart of an area controlled by pro-Russian militias.

Ukraine moved its military into the area Wednesday in large numbers for the first time. But its attempt to use troops stumbled as some units ended up trapped by civilians angry at their arrival.

He and another soldier, 27 years old, shrugged when asked if they were part of the “antiterrorist” operation aimed at ousting militants, which Ukrainian officials say are led by well-armed Russian agents.

“We came here on a training exercise,” said the older one.

Trying to quell the crowd’s anger, the Ukrainian soldiers said they had no orders—or intention—to shoot at peaceful civilians.

It isn’t clear whether they’ll get that far. The crowd blocking them was mostly calm but insistent.

Some brought the soldiers cigarettes, water, and food, including cookies and pickles. One man lifted a child onto an armored vehicle for a photograph. Some soldiers perched on vehicles winked at girls standing nearby.

The soldiers, who came together in March when Ukraine mobilized reserve forces, looked tired, disheveled, and dirty. Ukraine’s army has for years suffered from corruption and mismanagement and has in recent weeks been receiving donations of money, food and clothes from civilians.

Asked when he last ate, the 27-year-old said: “It’s better that I don’t answer that.”

“We definitely don’t have enough cigarettes. The army doesn’t provide those,” he added.

At one point, the soldiers fired up the engine of one armored vehicle, which coughed into life with a plume of black smoke.

A mechanic looked at the motor, yelling for a wrench to fix something.

Many in the crowd were content to mill around chatting, eating sunflower seeds and enjoying the sunshine.

One elderly man swayed toward one of the vehicles.

“Uncle Sasha, get back here! Don’t touch the tank!” a companion cried, grabbing him by the arm.

Others entered into debate with the soldiers.

“Take that flag down. You’re provoking us!” ordered a man who said he was a retired army sergeant, pointing to a Ukrainian flag.

“I have no intention of taking it down,” said a tall soldier wearing a bandanna.

Several times, the soldiers explained they weren’t here to shoot at civilians, but to take on armed militants and restore order.

“You came onto our territory with weapons. Why are you here?” asked a man in shorts, flip-flops and a red T-shirt that declared, “Born in the U.S.S.R.”

He refused to give his name, but said he was from Kramatorsk and pointed to a jar of pickled gherkins he said he brought for the troops.

“I brought those. I’m not a terrorist. I want to live peacefully in Donbas,” he said, referring to this industrial region.

“We aren’t against Ukraine, but we’re against this government,” he fumed.

“I’m a soldier and I take orders,” said the soldier in a bandanna. “It’s impossible to talk to you.”

“Some of the soldiers were reservists who eagerly accepted the food and water offered to them.”

MORE:

Reports Of Some Ukrainian Soldiers Switching Sides

April 16, 2014 VOA News

Masked pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine seized armored vehicles from the Ukrainian army Wednesday, in a humiliating blow to Ukrainian efforts to recapture towns controlled by pro-Moscow partisans.

The Ukrainian soldiers in the vehicles near Slovyansk mounted no resistance, allowing the partisans to mount Russian flags on the vehicles and drive them into the city, where they were greeted by cheering supporters.

There were also reports of some Ukrainian soldiers switching sides, once confronted by the Moscow loyalists.

Witnesses say a second armored Ukrainian column moving toward Slovyansk was stopped by a crowd blocking the roadway.

Western journalists say the Ukrainian occupants were only allowed to retreat after disabling their firearms.

MORE:

The Loathsome Tyrant Putin Lights A Fuse That Could, And Hopefully Will, Blow His Head Off:

**“In Donetsk And Lugansk We Are
Witnessing The Elemental Force
Of A Popular Movement, Which It
Is Simply Impossible To Manage
From Outside”**

**“A Genuine Revolutionary
Transformation Is Taking Place”**

**“The Police And Army Are Unreliable,
And The Rank And File Of The Forces Of
State Repression, For Perfectly Natural
Social Reasons, Are More Likely To
Identify With The Rebels Than With The
People Trying To Issue Orders”**

“The Kiev and Moscow intelligentsia are sincerely incapable of believing that workers and the lower orders of urban society could not only have emerged suddenly onto the streets, but also begun acting independently, organising themselves and making history”

April 13, 2014 **By Boris Kagarlitsky in Russia**, translated by Renfrey Clarke; Links International Journal of Socialist Renewal

In Ukraine in 1918, workers’ protests by the “Reds” took place solely in response to actions by the nationalist authorities that had installed themselves in Kiev.

The question of how progressive the regime established by the supporters of the Donetsk Peoples Republic and other movements in Ukraine's south-east will prove remains unanswered for the present simply for the reason that the very survival of these movements is far from guaranteed.

But it can already be said with assurance that there is no road back.

The point of no return has been passed, not only in the political but above all in the social sense.

The Kiev and Moscow intelligentsia are sincerely incapable of believing that workers and the lower orders of urban society could not only have emerged suddenly onto the streets, but also begun acting independently, organising themselves and making history.

These are the people whom the intelligentsia describe contemptuously as "lumpens", middle-aged family men and women who only yesterday were typical apolitical residents, Russian-speaking workers who took no interest in the political intrigues of the capital.

Behind the backs of the people who are seizing administration buildings and police stations, the intelligentsia as in the past are looking for political manipulators, hirelings of the oligarchs, and even foreign agents, including Russians.

The intelligentsia are convinced that simple Donetsk citizens, even after watching on television as several dozen analogous seizures were carried out two months ago by chance-comers from the Right Sector, could never have contrived to do something of the sort themselves.

And it is true: until now, such people have not taken part in politics.

This has been the case not just in south-eastern Ukraine, but also in Kiev, and of course in Russia.

I suspect it is true of western Ukraine as well.

A video from Donetsk shows very graphically the radically changing sociology and demography of the protest.

In place of the young middle-class residents of the capital whom we grew used to seeing in earlier Maidan demonstrations, we are confronted with quite different people -- people who a few weeks ago were preoccupied with earning money to support their families, and who would have considered participating in any kind of street protest a pointless waste of time.

Now, these people have not just come onto the streets, but they are blockading trucks full of soldiers, organising themselves and taking decisions.

A genuine revolutionary transformation is taking place in the consciousness of the masses.

In the consciousness of the masses, not in the notorious “public opinion” that is shaped by the privileged intelligentsia, by those who have never got around to understanding the point and significance of the events now under way.

In their significance, the changes occurring in the Ukrainian south-east extend far across the borders of the neighbouring state.

They directly affect Russia, providing us with images of our own potential future.

It is no accident that our own ruling elites are becoming less and less enamoured of the famous “Russian spring”.

Official Moscow has let it be understood, in no uncertain terms, that it makes no claim to Ukraine’s rebellious provinces.

This is not a diplomatic move, and not a concession to the West; more correctly, it is a step dictated, among other causes, by a desire to avoid any escalation of a conflict that has far exceeded the bounds of anything the Kremlin finds convenient or manageable.

Unlike Crimea, where everything was controlled and where, after two or three demonstrations, the transfer of power was carried out by the local elite, in Donetsk and Lugansk we are witnessing the elemental force of a popular movement, which it is simply impossible to manage from outside.

This movement is decentralised and thrusting forward its own leaders from among people who only yesterday were unknown, it is formulating and developing its agenda as events unfold.

For our Russian authorities, accepting into the Russian Federation several provinces with such a population and with such mass organisations, at a time when there is a growing social crisis in our own country, would be like shooting themselves in the foot.

It can thus be said with confidence that the activists of the Donetsk People’s Republic will have to rely solely on their own resources.

No “polite people” are going to approach them, and no little green men are going to descend from a spacecraft.

Official Russia has left the Ukrainian south-east to its own fate, and will try to fence itself off from the region as far as possible.

This maneuver, meanwhile, is being rendered more difficult by the patriotic moods which our authorities have whipped up, and which in the course of events could turn against the Kremlin as well.

The developments of the past few days nevertheless show that the popular movements in Donetsk, Lugansk, Odessa and Kharkov have a chance of succeeding even without serious support from Russia.

In such a case, the possibility will open up for them of expanding their influence into other regions, with the majority of whose population they have far more interests in common than with the leaderships in Moscow or Kiev.

The new Ukrainian authorities in turn are faced with an extremely unpleasant dilemma.

The disturbances in the south-east can only be crushed with the help of the far-right Right Sector organisation, and only at the cost of large-scale bloodshed.

The police and army are unreliable, and the rank and file of the forces of state repression, for perfectly natural social reasons, are more likely to identify with the rebels than with the people trying to issue orders.

As a result, the authorities will have to bring the warriors of the radical right into play. The problem here is not with the ideology of the Right Sector fighters, or even with their psychological peculiarities. Police units are specially trained to disperse mass protests, while avoiding bloodshed as far as possible.

The Right Sector thugs lack this training, and hence will immediately set about breaking bones and killing people. This is, unfortunately, a standard situation, and one well known from the experience of other countries.

The bloodshed in turn will not only harm the reputation of the Kiev authorities (they are not too concerned at this, concluding rightly enough that the Western press and the liberal intelligentsia of Moscow and Kiev will approve any actions they undertake, even mass terror), but will also risk provoking a still more powerful wave of protests, and even mutinies within the army.

Understanding the dangers, the more reasonable members of the new government in Kiev are prepared to compromise with the protesters -- and, we should surmise, more or less sincerely.

Of course, this is not because they have suddenly become infused with respect for the insurgent populace. It is because they have witnessed the might of the people, and have realised that it is now useless to make agreements behind the backs of the protesters with one or another "serious player", whether the Kremlin, the oligarch Rinat Akhmetov or the European Union.

None of these controls the situation any longer.

But if official Kiev makes serious concessions and tries to pacify the south-east, accepting the demands for autonomy, a referendum, free election of governors and so forth, conflict will automatically erupt between the moderate wing of the government and the Right Sector.

And while the fighters of the Right Sector have not shown themselves to be particularly effective in struggle against the rebellious masses of eastern Ukraine, in the capital they are a very real force. Amid the confusion and demoralisation of the forces of law and order, the Right Sector are capable of overthrowing the regime, or at least of causing it very serious difficulties.

Here we find the real challenge before the Ukrainian revolution: the future of Kiev, and of the country as a whole, depends on whether the masses of ordinary citizens, the everyday folk who shortly before were alien to the passions and problems of the Maidan, are able to move into political action.

If the masses rise up, neither the Right Sector nor the political adventurers who rode to power on the preceding wave of street protests will stand a chance.

This will mark the beginning of a new, democratic politics -- not only in Ukraine, but in Russia as well.

MORE:

**East Ukrainian Rebels Tell U.S.,
EU, And Russia To Fuck Off:
“A Former Miner, Said: ‘We Are
Not Moscow Or Kiev. They Do Not
Command Us’”**

**“Pakhomovich Said He Was Aware Of
The Agreement Made In Geneva But
Said He Did Not Feel Beholden To
Russia’s Foreign Minister, Sergei
Lavrov, Or President, Vladimir Putin”**

**“We Are Prepared To Ignore Lavrov.
Why Should We Listen To Him?”**

18 April 14 by Luke Harding, Julian Borger and Alec Luhn, Guardian UK [Excerpts]

Pro-Russian groups occupying a string of public buildings across eastern Ukraine have insisted that they would not end their occupation until a referendum to decide the status of the region had taken place.

The occupation continued in other eastern cities. In Makiivka, closer to Donetsk, public buildings flew the flag of the Donetsk People’s Republic although a flag of the Russian Federation that had flown earlier in the week had been taken down.

On Thursday, the US, Russia, Ukraine and the European Union agreed on a series of immediate steps aimed at pulling eastern Ukraine back from the brink of war.

At the barricade, Vladimir Pakhomovich, a former miner, said: “We are not Moscow or Kiev. They do not command us. We are just here to defend our people. Until we get a referendum, we do not intend to leave.”

Pakhomovich said he was aware of the agreement made in Geneva but said he did not feel beholden to Russia’s foreign minister, Sergei Lavrov, or president, Vladimir Putin. “We are prepared to ignore Lavrov. Why should we listen to him?” he said.

The activists’ refusal seemed to undermine a deal reached Thursday in Geneva by Ukraine, Russia, the U.S. and the European Union, aimed at neutralizing a crisis that has plunged Ukraine into political and civil disarray and thrown Russia and the West into their deepest conflict since the end of the Soviet Union.

Late Friday, [Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy] Yatsenyuk and acting President Oleksandr Turchynov announced what they said was a sweeping constitutional-reform plan aimed at addressing many of the concerns of their opponents in Ukraine’s east, where many residents speak Russian and are wary of Kiev’s new pro-Western leadership.

The plan calls for replacing appointed mayors and regional governors with officials elected locally and giving regional governments more power to determine how budget funds are spent.

The plan would also allow towns, cities and regions to independently determine whether to make Russian an official language alongside Ukrainian. Language rights have been a central issue for protesters.

MORE:

“People In Towns Across Eastern Ukraine Are Eager To Oppose A Government They Say Doesn’t Represent Them And Hasn’t Solved Local Problems Such As Unemployment, Corruption And Poor Public Services”

“Many Express Annoyance At Being Called Separatists, Saying That They Want To Stay Part Of Ukraine”

“‘What Sort Of Terrorists Are We?’ Said Oksana Serevyanova, A 36-Year-Old In A Woolen Hat Who Had Taken A Day Off From Work In A Grocery Store”



Protesters rally on Monday at an occupied building in Slovyansk. The takeover of a police station there Saturday sparked wider protests in the region. European Pressphoto Agency

April 14, 2014 By James Marson, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

DRUZHKIVKA, Ukraine—

On a potholed road into this small industrial town, the authority of the country’s pro-Western government ends abruptly at a stack of tires guarded by a grocery clerk, a young man with a bulldog and a chemicals salesman.

They are part of a ragtag, local militia, some 30 people strong, that is eroding Kiev’s already shaky grip in the east of the country.

“We don’t have guns, just a few sticks, but if the army comes we’ll try to hold them off so the other towns can prepare,” said Maksim Olinov, a Druzhkivka native with graying stubble who was standing near a few dozen Molotov cocktails fashioned from beer bottles.

The activism of people like Mr. Olinov and his companions is narrowing Kiev’s choices in trying to halt protests that have spread since Saturday, when men in unmarked military-style uniforms with military weapons stormed the police station in nearby Slovyansk.

The professional-looking forces had largely melted from view Monday in towns where they helped seize buildings, such as Slovyansk and nearby Kramatorsk, over the weekend, leaving locals on patrol with sticks and, sometimes, guns.

In Druzhkivka, the protesters said they set up the checkpoint themselves on Sunday after the government announced it was sending forces to storm Slovyansk

Authorities in Kiev blame Russia for instigating the protests, but many people in towns across eastern Ukraine are eager to oppose a government they say doesn’t represent them and hasn’t solved local problems such as unemployment, corruption and poor public services.

Many here express annoyance at being called separatists, saying that they want to stay part of Ukraine.

Polls show that less than a fifth of people in Donbas, the colloquial term for the coal-rich Donetsk Basin, want full independence from Kiev.

Protesters didn’t even need to storm the police station here, which had raised a Russian flag as a sign of peace.

“We’re not going to go and smash it up,” said Mr. Olinov, who has two young children. “This is our town.”

“What sort of terrorists are we?” said Oksana Serevyanova, a 36-year-old in a woolen hat who had taken a day off from work in a grocery store.

“They won’t have enough iron to lock us all up,” said Mr. Olinov. “They don’t know Donbas.”

Resentment of Kiev runs deep in Donbas, where people say they have for years sent huge tax payments to the capital but seen little in return. Brought up on the belief that their factories and coal mines fuel the whole country, locals are demanding a greater voice in how Donbas is run.

At the same time, few believe the new government will improve the sorry state of the town, where once-rumbling factory units lie deserted and cars swerve from side to side to avoid potholes.

“The government talks about general things—parliament, laws, party congresses—but things don’t get better. We need concrete people to solve concrete problems here,” said Mr. Olinov.

Even though they fly a Russian flag at their small encampment, the militia members say it is just a sign of where people in the town have their closest economic and cultural ties, and where they look to for support, just as people in Kiev flew the EU’s banner during the earlier protests.

“Let us be part of Ukraine, but we’ll never turn away from Russia. They’ve woken up a giant—Donbas. Donbas is Donbas, and Russia is with us,” said Mr. Olinov, before heading back to the piles of tires.

ACTION REPORTS

“My Impression Was He Meant To Hand Them Out Too”

[Outreach To New York National Guard]

From: Alan S
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: April 17, 2014
Subject: 4/17 Outreach to New York National Guard

The National Guard private indicated the National Guard sergeant should take the material I was providing.

This was because the private had already read Military Resistance Newsletters I’d given him and seen both DVDS, “Sir! No Sir!” and “Authority & Expectations”) that we in Military Resistance distribute. The private’s opinion of material he’d received was “very interesting” and he felt the sergeant should read them.

[“Sir No Sir!” -- http://www.sirnosir.com/the_film/storefront.html]

[“Authority & Expectations” -- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyfkLubnyBw>]

This took place this morning at a local commuter terminal and although the sergeant was a bit reluctant: “We can’t take that” he, with the private’s continued prodding and my showing him how he could fold up the newsletter in squares so as to fit in his large trouser pocket, took the material without further hesitation.

Military Resistance intro cards were also given out then and later [see below].

The day included more handouts for other troops at this station and another making a total of 5 DVDs of "Authority & Expectations" plus 4 more Military Resistance newsletters which included the private mentioned above asking for a new newsletter and another DVD.

My impression was he meant to hand them out too.

Military Resistance



(888) 711-2550

www.militaryproject.org

contact@militaryproject.org

SUPPORTING GI RESISTANCE

MORE:

ACTION REPORTS WANTED: FROM YOU!

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to Military Resistance for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how.

If there were favorable responses, say so.

If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out. Reporting what went wrong and/or got screwed up is especially important, so that others may learn from you what to expect, and how to avoid similar problems if possible.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

NOTE WELL:

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Identifying information – locations, personnel – will be omitted from the reports.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the wars.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs identifying information be published in reporting on the action.

MORE:

The Military Resistance Organization:

Military Resistance Mission Statement:

1. The mission of Military Resistance is to bring together in one organization members of the armed forces and civilians in order to give aid and comfort to members of the armed forces who are organizing to end the war of empire in Afghanistan. The long term objective is to assist in eliminating all wars of empire by eliminating all empires.

2. Military Resistance does not advocate individual disobedience to orders or desertion from the armed forces. The most effective resistance is organized by members of the armed forces working together.

However, Military Resistance respects and will assist in the defense of troops who see individual desertion or refusal of orders as the only course of action open to them for reasons of conscience.

3. Military Resistance stands for the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and other occupation troops from Afghanistan.

Occupied nations have the right to independence and the right to resist Imperial invasion and occupation by force of arms.

4. Efforts to increase democratic rights in every society, organization, movement, and within the armed forces itself will receive encouragement and support.

Members of the armed forces, whether those of the United States or any other nation, have the right and duty to act against dictatorships commanding their services, and to assist civilian movements against dictatorship.

This applies whether a political dictatorship is imposed by force of arms or a political dictatorship is imposed by those in command of the resources of society using their wealth to purchase the political leadership.

5. Military Resistance uses organizational democracy.

This means control of the organization by the membership, through elected delegates to any coordinating bodies that may be formed, whether at local, regional, or national levels.

Any member may run for any job in the organization. All persons elected are subject to immediate recall, by majority vote of the membership.

Coordinating bodies report their actions, decisions and votes to the membership who elected them, and may be overruled by a majority of the membership.

6. It is not necessary for Military Resistance to be in political agreement with other organizations in order to work together towards specific common objectives.

It is productive for organizations working together on common projects to discuss differences about the best way forward for the movement.

Debate is necessary to arrive at the best course of action.

Membership Requirements:

7. It is a condition of membership that each member prioritize and participate in organized action to reach out to active duty armed forces, Reserve and/or National Guard units.

8. Military Resistance or individual members may choose to support candidates for elective office who are for immediate withdrawal from Afghanistan, but do not support a candidate opposed to immediate, unconditional withdrawal.

9. Members may not be active duty or drilling reserve commissioned officers, or employed in any capacity by any police or intelligence agency, local, state, or national.

10. I understand and am in agreement with the above statement. I pledge to defend my brothers and sisters, and the democratic rights of the citizens of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

-----**(Signed)**

(Date)

----- (Application taken by)

Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550

MORE

**You Can Take Action That Makes
A Difference:
Join The Military Resistance
Organization:
MILITARY RESISTANCE MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

Name (please print): _____

Armed Forces? (Branch) _____

Veteran? Years: _____

Union: _____

Occupation: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone (Landline): _____

Phone (Cell): _____

\$ dues paid _____

(See next: Calendar year basis.)

Armed Forces Members	@	Dues waived
Civilians	@	\$25
Students/Unemployed	@	\$10
Civilian/Military Prisoners	@	Dues Waived

Comments:

NOTE: Civilian applicants will be interviewed, in person if possible, or by phone.

**Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550**

MORE

“People Need Not Be Helpless Before The Power Of Illegitimate Authority”

**MILITARY RESISTANCE:
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
Contact@militaryproject.org**

[Based on a statement by David Cortright, Vietnam Veteran and armed forces resistance organizer.]

In the final analysis the stationing of American forces abroad serves not the national interest but the class interest of the corporate and political elite.

The maintenance of a massive, interventionist-oriented military establishment is based on the need to protect multinational investment and preserve regimes friendly to American capital.

Imperialism is at the heart of the national-security system and is the force fundamentally responsible for the counterrevolutionary, repressive aims of U.S. policy.

Only if we confront this reality and challenge it throughout society and within the ranks can we restore democratic control of the military.

Of course nothing can be accomplished without citizen involvement and active political struggle.

During the Vietnam era enlisted servicemen created massive pressures for change, despite severe repression, and significantly altered the course of the war and subsequent military policy.

To sustain and strengthen this challenge we must continue to build political opposition to interventionism and support those within the armed services, including national guard and reserves, who defy the goals and program of Empire.

The central lesson of the GI movement is that people need not be helpless before the power of illegitimate authority, that by getting together and acting upon their convictions people can change society and, in effect, make their own history.

The Military Project

Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550

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

It would be a fundamental mistake to suppose that the struggle for democracy can divert the proletariat from the socialist revolution, or obscure, or overshadow it, etc. On the contrary, just as socialism cannot be victorious unless it introduces complete democracy, so the proletariat will be unable to prepare for victory over the bourgeoisie unless it wages a many-sided, consistent, and revolutionary struggle for democracy.”

-- V. I. Lenin, Collected Works, 4th English Edition; Vol. 22

Lawmaker Introduces Bill Requiring Veterans To Warn Neighbors Of Their Combat Service:



April 15, 2014 By Paul, The Duffle Blog

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Following a second mass shooting at Fort Hood, at least one lawmaker thinks a bill currently under consideration will ensure the safety of American communities by requiring the estimated 2.6 million unstable veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan to tell their neighbors of their combat service.

The Fortify & Unite Communities to Keep Veterans' External Threats Secure Act (H.R. 1874) which was introduced on Tuesday, would require military veterans to register with the Department of Homeland Security and periodically “check-in” with a case officer, in addition to going door-to-door in their neighborhood to notify people nearby that they are a powder keg of post traumatic stress, alcoholism, murder, and hate just waiting to blow.

“We really feel that we can drastically minimize the damage to some communities, especially those in troubled ‘PTSD hotspots’ that have become a haven for these psychopathic troops,” said Rep. Jim Moran (D-Va.), who sponsored the legislation.

“We are so thankful for their service, and now they can continue to serve on veterans probation.”

For the safety of communities, the FCC would also direct cable providers to block access to violent war content popular among veterans, to include The Military Channel and Lifetime.

Further, a preliminary letter details instructions sent to providers to censor movies such as “Black Hawk Down” and “Saving Private Ryan” so as “not to place a veteran into a potentially violent mental state and protect the community by not ‘poking the bear.’”

The bill is up for vote in the House Veterans Affairs Committee next Thursday where watchers say it’s likely to pass before going to the floor for a full vote. However, there’s been some controversy surrounding one part of the bill barring veterans from living within 1,000 feet of bars, gun ranges, or liquor stores, as critics claim this would be unfair to local businesses.

Lawmakers are still debating a requirement that veterans need approval before moving to a new community they would eventually terrorize.

An amendment requiring case officers to place crazed veterans in a locked safe room for the 24 hours of Independence Day and New Years Eve had already passed

ANNIVERSARIES

The Ludlow Massacre
April 20, 1914:
Infamous Anniversary:
Soldiers Dishonor Their Uniforms
Slaughtering Women And Children
To Serve The Rich:

Some Honorable Soldiers Resist, But The Colorado National Guard Becomes Notorious All Over The World As Foul, Cowardly Strike- Breaking Scum



Eighty-two soldiers in a company on a troop train headed for Trinidad refused to go. The men declared they would not engage in the shooting of women and children.

Carl Bunin Peace History April 16-22 & PBS.org

A lot more than 2,000 miles separated the Rockefeller estate from Southern Colorado when on Monday April 20, 1914, the first shot was fired at Ludlow.

One of history's most dramatic confrontations between capital and labor — the Ludlow massacre — took place at the mines of the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company (CF&I).

Troops from the Colorado state militia attacked strikers, killing 25 (half women and children), in Ludlow. Two women and eleven children who suffocated in a pit they had dug under their tent.

Having struck the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company the previous September for improved conditions, better wages, and union recognition, the workers established a tent camp which was fired upon and ultimately torched during the 14-hour siege.

The Ludlow Massacre

[The following was excerpted from Howard Zinn's A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES (pgs 346-349).]

“... shortly after Woodrow Wilson took office there began in Colorado one of the most bitter and violent struggles between workers and corporate capital in the history of the country.

This was the Colorado coal strike that began in September 1913 and culminated in the ‘Ludlow Massacre’ of April 1914.

Eleven thousand miners in southern Colorado ... worked for the Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation, which was owned by the Rockefeller family.

Aroused by the murder of one of their organizers, they went on strike against low pay, dangerous conditions, and feudal domination of their lives in towns completely controlled by the mining companies.”

“When the strike began, the miners were immediately evicted from their shacks in the mining towns. Aided by the United Mine Workers Union, they set up tents in the nearby hills and carried on the strike, the picketing, from these tent colonies.

The gunmen hired by the Rockefeller interests -- the Baldwin- Felts Detective Agency -- using Gatling guns and rifles, raided the tent colonies.

The death list of miners grew, but they hung on, drove back an armored train in a gun battle, fought to keep out strikebreakers.

With the miners resisting, refusing to give in, the mines not able to operate, the Colorado governor (referred to by a Rockefeller mine manager as ‘our little cowboy governor’) called out the National Guard, with the Rockefellers supplying the Guard’s wages.

“The miners at first thought the Guard was sent to protect them, and greeted its arrival with flags and cheers.

They soon found out the Guard was there to destroy the strike.

The Guard brought strikebreakers in under cover of night, not telling them there was a strike.

Guardsmen beat miners, arrested them by the hundreds, rode down with their horses parades of women in the streets of Trinidad, the central town in the area.

And still the miners refused to give in.

When they lasted through the cold winter of 1913-1914, it became clear that extraordinary measures would be needed to break the strike.

“In April 1914, two National Guard companies were stationed in the hills overlooking the largest tent colony of strikers, the one at Ludlow, housing a thousand men, women, children.

On the morning of April 20, a machine gun attack began on the tents.

The miners fired back.

Their leader was lured up into the hills to discuss a truce, then shot to death by a company of National Guardsmen.

The women and children dug pits beneath the tents to escape the gunfire.

At dusk, the Guard moved down from the hills with torches, set fire to the tents, and the families fled into the hills; thirteen people were killed by gunfire.

“The following day, a telephone linesman going through the ruins of the Ludlow tent colony lifted an iron cot covering a pit in one of the tents and found the charred, twisted bodies of eleven children and two women.

This became known as the Ludlow Massacre.

“The news spread quickly over the country.

In Denver, the United Mine Workers issued a ‘Call to Arms’ -- ‘Gather together for defensive purposes all arms and ammunition legally available.’ Three hundred armed strikers marched from other tent colonies into the Ludlow area, cut telephone and telegraph wires, and prepared for battle.

Railroad workers refused to take soldiers from Trinidad to Ludlow.

At Colorado Springs, three hundred union miners walked off their jobs and headed for the Trinidad district, carrying revolvers, rifles, shotguns.

“In Trinidad itself, miners attended a funeral service for the twenty-six dead at Ludlow, then walked from the funeral to a nearby building, where arms were stacked for them.

They picked up rifles and moved into the hills, destroying mines, killing mine guards, exploding mine shafts.

The press reported that ‘the hills in every direction seem suddenly to be alive with men.’

“In Denver, eighty-two soldiers in a company on a troop train headed for Trinidad refused to go. The press reported: ‘The men declared they would not engage in the shooting of women and children.

They hissed the 350 men who did start and shouted imprecations at them.

“Five thousand people demonstrated in the rain on the lawn in front of the state capital at Denver asking that the National Guard officers at Ludlow be tried for murder, denouncing the governor as an accessory.

The Denver Cigar Makers Union voted to send five hundred armed men to Ludlow and Trinidad.

Women in the United Garment Workers Union in Denver announced four hundred of their members had volunteered as nurses to help the strikers.

“All over the country there were meetings, demonstrations.

Pickets marched in front of the Rockefeller office at 26 Broadway, New York City.

A minister protested in front of the church where Rockefeller sometimes gave sermons, and was clubbed by the police.

“The New York Times carried an editorial on the events in Colorado, which were not attracting international attention.

The Times emphasis was not on the atrocity that had occurred, but on the mistake in tactics that had been made.

Its editorial on the Ludlow Massacre began: ‘Somebody blundered ... ‘

Two days later, with the miners armed and in the hills of the mine district, the Times wrote: ‘With the deadliest weapons of civilization in the hands of savage-mined men, there can be no telling to what lengths the war in Colorado will go unless it is quelled by force ... The President should turn his attention from Mexico long enough to take stern measures in Colorado.’

“The governor of Colorado asked for federal troops to restore order, and Woodrow Wilson complied.

This accomplished, the strike petered out.

Congressional committees came in and took thousands of pages of testimony.

The union had not won recognition.

Sixty-six men, women, and children had been killed.

Not one militiaman or mine guard had been indicted for crime.

“The Times had referred to Mexico.

On the morning that the bodies were discovered in the tent pit at Ludlow, American warships were attacking Vera Cruz, a city on the coast of Mexico--bombarding it, occupying it, leaving a hundred Mexicans dead--because Mexico had arrested American sailors and refused to apologize to the United States with a twenty-one gun salute.

Could patriotic fervor and the military spirit cover up class struggle?

Unemployment, hard times, were growing in 1914.

Could guns divert attention and create some national consensus against an external enemy?

It surely was a coincidence--the bombardment of Vera Cruz, the attack on the Ludlow colony.

Or perhaps it was, as someone once described human history, 'the natural selection of accidents.'

Perhaps the affair in Mexico was an instinctual response of the system for its own survival, to create a unity of fighting purpose among a people torn by internal conflict.

"The bombardment of Vera Cruz was a small incident.

But in four months the First World War would begin in Europe.



The aftermath of the Ludlow Massacre, 1914.

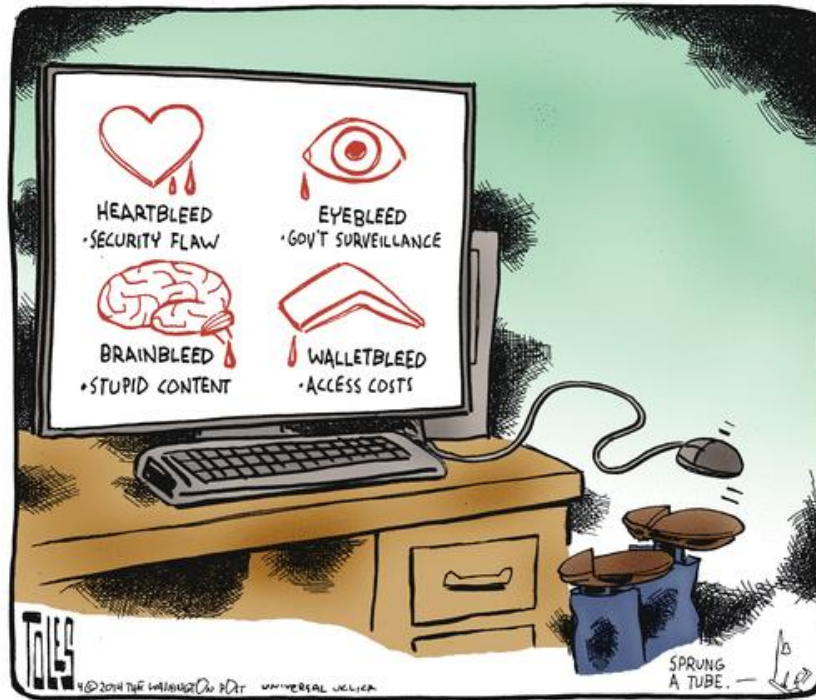
YOUR INVITATION:

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 In PDF Format?

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email: contact@militaryproject.org

CLASS WAR REPORTS



One Million Strike Against The Government Of Argentina: “The Strike’s Focus Was To Denounce The Country’s Low Wage Increases In The Face Of High Inflation, As Well As Other Policies, Like Cuts In Utility Subsidies And Salary Caps”

April 18th, 2014 By Andrea Germanos, Comondreams.org

A 24-hour general strike gripped Argentina on Thursday, bringing many public services to a halt.

Unions say over one million workers took part in this second strike the administration of Cristina Fernández has faced.

The strike's focus was to denounce the country's low wage increases in the face of high inflation, as well as other policies, like cuts in utility subsidies and salary caps, critics say are unfair to workers and are fomenting social unrest.

The strike stopped public transportation, forced the cancellation of flights, blockaded roads, and resulted in some clashes between police and protesters.

From Spanish news agency EFE:

"The strike has been a success from the outset," labor leader and congressman Nestor Pitrola said, adding that "a new stage has been launched" in the unions' struggle, "which began with the teachers strike and continues with this strike that seeks to define where the country is heading."

Spearheading the strike was Hugo Moyano, head of the General Confederation of Labor, and former Fernández ally.

Moyano said the strike was a sign of people's "anger and disenchantment," and that the president must respond to this message from the people.

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 injustices, 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.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Thieving Zionist Forces Grab 200 Tons Of Wood From Palestinians Near Jenin

04/08/2014 Ma'an

JENIN -- Israeli bulldozers demolished a steel structure and soldiers confiscated 200 tons of wood in northern West Bank villages early Monday, Palestinian security sources said.

The sources told Ma'an that several Israeli vehicles stormed the village of Bartaa al-Sharqiya west of Jenin and demolished a steel structure owned by Muhammad Ibrahim Qabaha.

Israeli forces also ransacked a garage owned by local resident Walid Wakid.

Meanwhile, in the nearby village of Zabda, Israeli troops raided a charcoal factory belonging to Nour and Khaled Ibrahim Amarnah and confiscated 200 tons of wood.

Israel rarely grants Palestinians permits to build in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. It has demolished at least 27,000 Palestinian homes and structures since occupying the West Bank in 1967, according to the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions.

Israel destroyed more than 663 Palestinian properties in the West Bank and East Jerusalem in 2013, displacing 1,101 people, according to UNOCHA. Around 241 more people have been displaced just since the beginning of 2014.

The internationally recognized Palestinian territories of which the West Bank and East Jerusalem form a part have been occupied by the Israeli military since 1967.

**Regime Harassment Spoiling
Christian Easter Celebrations In
Occupied Jerusalem, As Usual:
Each Easter Checkpoints Are
“Preventing The Worshipers From Free
Access To The Via Dolorosa, The Church**

Of The Holy Sepulchre, And The Vicinity Of The Christian Quarter”

9 April 2014 ALRAY & April 8, 2014 AMMON NEWS

Agencies –

A group of Christians from East Jerusalem on Sunday said that Israel’s restrictions on Palestinian mobility resulted in violations of religious freedoms.

The Christians are describing the harassment as discriminatory, racist, and targets the Holy season.

The statement, signed “Palestinian Christian Organizations in Occupied East Jerusalem,” complained that Christians are often denied access to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre during the Easter holidays.

Each Easter, checkpoints are erected “at the Gates and in the alley, thus preventing the worshipers from free access to the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the vicinity of the Christian Quarter.”

Israel’s restrictions on Palestinian Christians are a part of larger strategy of Judaization in Jerusalem, the statement said.

“The restrictive measures constitute grave violation on the freedom of worship, and amount to discrimination against Christians because the occupation authorities want to negate Christian presence and create the impression of a Jewish-only city.”

Both Christians and Muslims are often “unable to worship freely and to be with their families and friends” during religious holidays because of Israel’s actions, the statement went on to note.

The organizations called on Christians to make attempts to attend Easter celebrations in Jerusalem despite the countless restrictions.

The measures taken by the occupying power have been escalating in recent years, and are meant to deny Christian and Moslem presence in East Jerusalem.

Palestinian Christians in Jerusalem filed last February a petition accusing the Israeli police of erecting roadblocks and barricades in and around the Old City on that day which deter worshipers from even attempting to access the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and other sites for Holy Saturday celebrations.

The Christians of East Jerusalem note the futility of attempts during previous years to coordinate with the police of the occupying power, more so because the restrictions violate basic human rights and freedom of faith.

In a report published in 2012, the US State Department made similar observations. “Strict closures and curfews imposed by the Israeli government negatively

affected residents' ability to practice their religion at holy sites, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, as well as the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem," the report said.

"The separation barrier significantly impeded Bethlehem-area Christians from reaching the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem and made visits to Christian sites in Bethany (al-Eizariya) and Bethlehem difficult for Palestinian Christians who live on the Jerusalem side of the barrier."

East Jerusalem, including the historic Old City, was occupied by Israeli forces in 1967 and later annexed in a move not recognized by the international community.

Palestinian Christians are awaiting a High Court of Justice ruling on a petition asking Israeli occupation and the Israel Police to drop the heavy movement and security restrictions that have prevented worshipers from accessing holy sites in East Jerusalem on Holy Saturday during the past several years.

Holy Saturday, which is the day before Easter, falls this year on April 19.

The celebrations in the vicinity of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Christian Quarter have been conducted according to local traditions and heritage that date back to hundreds of years.

None of the successive powers that ruled Jerusalem considered tampering with the traditional celebrations and local heritage.

Zionists Trash Ancient Cemetery & Rip Off Contents On Palestinian Land Near Nablus



(MaanImages)

04/18/2014

TULKAREM – The Palestinian ministry of tourism and antiquities has accused Israel of ruining an archeological cemetery between Nablus and Tulkarem in the northern West Bank near the village of Deir Sharaf.

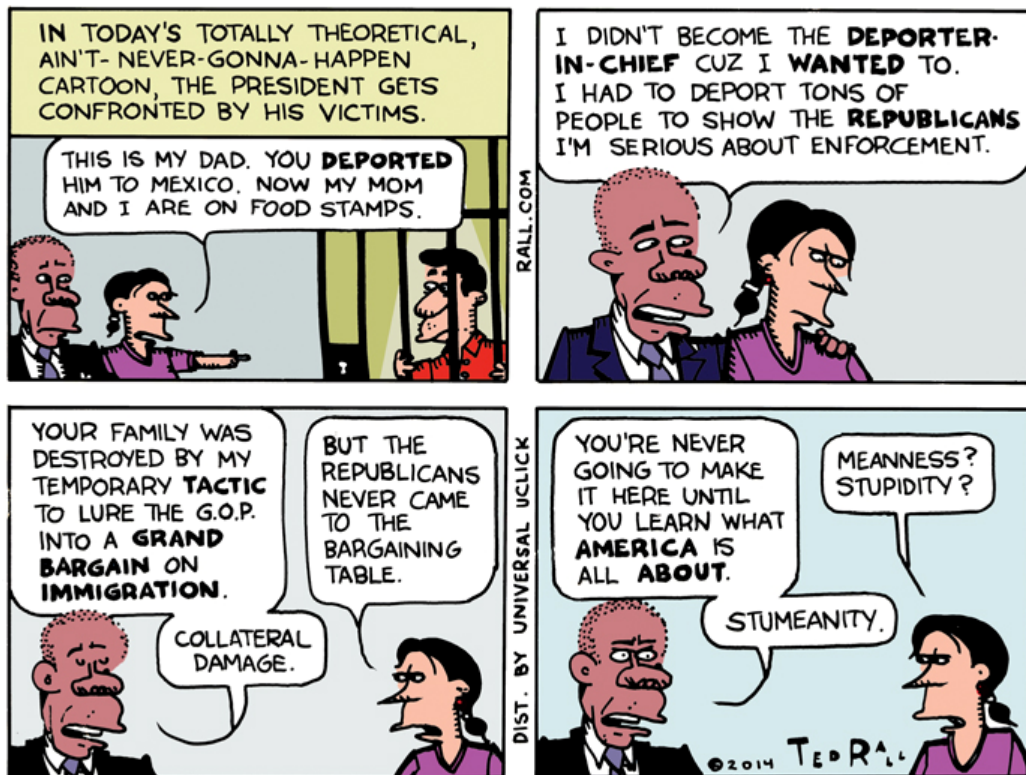
Director of the ministry's department of antiquities protection Salih Tawafsha told Ma'an that the Israeli antiquities authority escorted with Israeli forces "stole all the contents of the cemetery" after they carried out "illegal" excavations while the Israelis refurbished the main road.

Such procedures, says Tawafsha, mark a violation of heritage-related international conventions.

He highlighted that experts from the Palestinian ministry of tourism and antiquities went to the cemetery to do excavations, but the Israelis denied them access.

To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:
<http://www.maanneews.net/eng/Default.aspx> and
<http://www.palestinemonitor.org/list.php?id=ej898ra7yff0ukmf16>
The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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 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.