

## Military Resistance 12D7



**“Faced With A Skyrocketing Suicide Rate In Their Ranks, Many Of The Nation’s Veterans Hope That Marijuana Will Be Their Salve”**

**“If There’s Any Chance That It Could Be A Positive Influence, How Could We Wait This Long?”**

# **“Truthfully, It’s The Activism From Veterans All Around This Country That’s Really Moved This Forward”**

Veterans push to smoke pot to ease PTSD, other ailments

April 7, 2014 By ROB HOTAKAINEN, Staff writer; The News Tribune

**WASHINGTON – After flying helicopters in Vietnam for 30 months, Perry Parks couldn’t stop the panicked dreams.**

**“I was flying through wires all the time, and I never hit the wire,” said Parks, 71, a retired military commander from Rockingham, N.C. “I’m a helicopter pilot, so wires scare the hell out of you.”**

**Parks, who has post-traumatic stress disorder, said he took sleeping pills for years after he retired.**

**Then he found a more satisfying alternative: two or three bong hits at least three times a day.**

**“I don’t have the dreams anymore,” he said.**

Faced with a skyrocketing suicide rate in their ranks, many of the nation’s veterans hope that marijuana will be their salve.

Federal officials and veterans groups estimate that nearly 31 percent of Vietnam veterans and 20 percent of returning service members from Iraq and Afghanistan are grappling with PTSD.

Veterans like Parks increasingly are taking their case to statehouses and to Capitol Hill, where they plan to lobby members of Congress on Monday.

**They scored a win in March when federal officials ended a three-year fight with a University of Arizona research team, agreeing to provide government-grown pot from Mississippi for a PTSD study.**

**Only days before the study won approval, organizers had planned to mobilize veterans for a protest in Washington.**

**“Truthfully, it’s the activism from veterans all around this country that’s really moved this forward,” said Suzanne Sisley, a clinical assistant professor of internal medicine and psychiatry at the University of Arizona’s medical school.**

She’ll lead the study, which plans to give 50 veterans the equivalent of two joints per day.

Parks said he was diagnosed with PTSD in 2002, five years after first seeing a psychiatrist who eventually told him he had all the symptoms. In addition to dealing with nightmares and chronic back pain, he said he was easily startled and would “jerk big time” at any noise.

“A lot of things like that, I just didn’t understand,” he said. “I’m in excellent shape – that’s what always bothered me: How can you be disabled if you can ride on a Jet Ski?”

Parks may have found his relief, but he’s violating federal and state law. The federal government’s official position is that marijuana, as a Schedule I substance, has no medical value. And the North Carolina Legislature most recently rejected medical marijuana in 2013.

**While thousands of Americans go to jail each year for violating marijuana laws, Parks is confident he won’t get arrested.**

**“I’m a white, successful person; they don’t mess with people like me,” said Parks, a former president of the North Carolina Cannabis Patients Network.**

When an officer at the North Carolina Statehouse once complained that he smelled pot upon Parks’ arrival, Parks admitted that he had smoked and suggested that he be arrested, figuring it would produce a good public spectacle.

Parks said the officer told him: “You’re not going to use law enforcement to further your efforts.”

**According to the advocacy group Veterans for Medical Cannabis Access, it’s legal to smoke marijuana for PTSD in 11 states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.**

Twenty states have passed medical marijuana laws, but some of them don’t cover PTSD.

Al Byrne, a Navy veteran with PTSD who’s also a co-founder of a Virginia nonprofit group called Patients Out of Time that promotes therapeutic uses of marijuana, said the federal government faced “a conundrum” after sending conflicting messages.

Notably, he said, the Veterans Affairs Department allows patients treated at its facilities to use medical marijuana as long as it’s legal in the states where they live.

In Washington state, Rick Rosio, a medical marijuana provider, said the country needed to move beyond the political debates.

He’s aiming to sign up 100,000 veterans for a program he’s developed that he calls “compassionate care.” It would help them gain access to both marijuana and better job opportunities, he said. Rosio said cannabis therapy could help many veterans reduce their dependency on opiates.

“Politics should not be played with veterans’ suffering,” said Rosio, of Spokane, who was sentenced last year to five years of probation on a felony charge of growing more than 50 pot plants.

“And without question, the veterans carry a mighty voice.”

Veterans groups predict that medical marijuana will soon become available in more states, including Florida, where a vote is set for November.

They say they’ve found a key ally in pushing their message: CNN medical correspondent Sanjay Gupta, who previously opposed medical marijuana, has done two in-depth reports on the issue. In the first one, which aired last year, Gupta apologized for once dismissing the potential of medical marijuana.

In the second one, which aired last month, he touted the benefits of marijuana for epilepsy patients who moved to Colorado to get the drug.

“When it got on CNN, finally, the rest of the public was able to catch up,” said Michael Krawitz, an Air Force veteran who heads Veterans for Medical Cannabis Access in Elliston, Va.

Sisley said her project won approval only days after Gupta’s documentary touched off a flurry of interest: “You can’t ignore the time sequence here.”

In many states, however, medical marijuana remains a tough sell.

“You’ve got to look at the bottom line: Every major medical association does not believe that there’s such a thing right now as medical marijuana – it’s a falsehood, it doesn’t exist,” Republican state Rep. Robert Benvenuti of Lexington, Ky., said in an interview.

Benvenuti, a leading opponent of a medical marijuana bill that stalled in Kentucky this year, said the issue was best left to federal regulators. He said more research was needed, with many psychiatrists thinking that smoking marijuana could worsen PTSD, leading to paranoia and isolation. And he said it would be “arrogant and irresponsible and reckless for a handful of legislators to decide what a medicine is.”

Byrne said pot clearly was medicine.

And with government statistics showing 22 veterans committing suicide each day, he said: “This is a war we’re in.”

After spending 30 years in the military, Parks has become a fierce advocate for his cause, personally lobbying more than 50 legislators in his home state and meeting with President Barack Obama when the president visited Winston-Salem in 2010.

He hopes the Arizona study will help more veterans.

“If there’s any chance that it could be a positive influence, how could we wait this long?” Parks asked. “How long have we got to wait?”

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# **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

## **690 Attacks Recorded During Elections Day In Afghanistan**

Apr 06 2014 By Ghanizada, Khaama Press

The anti-government armed militants carried out 690 attacks across the country during the presidential and provincial council elections on Saturday.

Defense ministry spokesman, Gen. Zahir Azimi said Saturday that the attacks by militants included direct fire, rocket attacks, improvised explosive device (IED) attacks and suicide attacks.

Gen. Azimi further added that 162 insurgents movements were recorded in 201 Silab Corps zone, 241 movements were recorded in Shaheen Corps zone, 20 in Thunder Corps zone, 39 movements in Atal Corps zone, 39 movements in Zafar Corps zone, 76 insurgents movements were recorded with Shaheen Corpse, 50 movements were recorded with Maiwand Corps and 82 attacks were recorded with 111 Corps zone.

Azimi also added that 164 militants were killed and 82 others were injured during the attacks while Afghan army soldiers seized various types of weapons belonging to the assailant militants.

He said at least 7 Afghan national army soldiers were martyred and 45 others were injured during these attacks.

Despite the security threats, the participation of the voters was higher and over 7 million voters participated in presidential and provincial council elections.

The IEC officials in a press conference said Saturday that the turnout of the elections surpassed most expectations despite security threats.

65 percent male and 35 female voters participated in Saturday's elections, which is twice higher as compared to voters' participation in 2009 presidential election.

Only 211 polling stations remained close due to security threats while 6,212 polling stations were open across the country.

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# **SOMALIA WAR REPORTS**

# Briton, French Officials Killed At Galkayo Airport

Apr 7, 2014 Garowe Online & by Haroon Siddique, The Guardian

GALKAYO, Somalia-

Two foreigners working for United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime have been killed at Abdullahi Yusuf airport in Mudug regional capital of Galkayo of central Somalia on Monday, Garowe Online reports.

According to Puntland government officials, airport security guard opened fire inside the airport terminal shortly after the British and French citizens arrived in Somalia's northeastern state of Puntland for official visit.

"One of them died inside the airport and the other one was rushed to hospital where he later died of the injuries. Both of them were white men," said Hassan Ahmed, who said he witnessed the incident.

The two men had flown into Galkayo to meet Somali officials on the issue of regulating the money transfer services that replace a formal banking system in Somalia, and were looking at the financial flow of money related to Somalia's pirate attacks, according to reports.

Speaking on Puntland-based independent station, Radio Garowe the Director of Puntland's Counter-Piracy Directorate Abdirizak Mohamed Ahmed said' the UN officials were set to hold a meeting with Puntland President Abdiweli Mohamed Ali Gaas and Somali remittance companies' chiefs'.

"The French Clement Garrison and the other British citizen Simon were killed in a dramatic shooting at the airport," Ahmed Added.

The incident coincided with a visit to Galkayo by Puntland leader amid shakeup within Puntland security agencies.

Galkayo is 370 miles (575km) north of the capital Mogadishu and lies on the border with Puntland.

Political analysts who have spoken to GO on condition of anonymity say, President Gaas ramped up a move that may lead to the frailty of security apparatus

Following his arrival in Galkayo city, Puntland President Abdiweli Gaas condemned the heinous act and admitted that stable Puntland has never witnessed such terrible incident.

He told that insane soldier grabbed AK-47 rifle from another soldier who was standing guard at the airport.

"The perpetrators are being held at facility and investigations are underway for the terrible incident," noted President Gaas. The plane carrying the UN officials took off from Hargeisa airport in the early hours of Monday morning.

Galkayo, at Puntland's southern gate connects the state to south-central regions plagued by chronic insecurity.

Puntland, located in northeastern Somalia supports the ongoing federalization efforts and has enjoyed relative stability since Somali state failure in 1991 as terror activities, criminal gangs operations and intra and inter clan conflicts had since been reigning through southern part of the country.

The UNODC has been working to combat piracy in Puntland and has built a new prison in the state capital, Garowe, which opened last week to house pirates who have been sentenced in other countries in the region, notably the Seychelles.

The UNODC said the building was a key part of its maritime crime programme in the Horn of Africa.

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## **MILITARY NEWS**

**“VA Used Nearly 60,000 Tissue-Based Implants Such As Skin And Bone Grafts, Heart Valves And Tendon Replacements”**

**“Military And VA Hospitals Bought Products Indirectly From A Supplier Later Convicted Of Illegally Harvesting Body Parts From Cadavers”**

# **“Officials Could Not Identify Which Patients To Contact Even If Problems In The Supply Chain Were Identified”**

Apr. 8, 2014 By Leo Shane III, Staff writer; Army Times [Excerpts]

Veterans Affairs Department officials used tens of thousands of biological implants in surgeries last year, but they can't fully account for their safety, according to investigators from the Government Accountability Office.

VA doctors used nearly 60,000 tissue-based implants in 2013 — such as skin and bone grafts, heart valves and tendon replacements.

But the GAO report found many were purchased through vendors not vetted by the Food and Drug Administration, which raises serious questions about where they originated

The agency also said VA has not developed an automated tracking system for which products were used in surgeries in various facilities, raising concerns that officials could not identify which patients to contact even if problems in the supply chain were identified.

Lawmakers have been concerned over the lack of information about tissue purchases since reports two years ago that military and veterans hospitals bought products indirectly from a supplier later convicted of illegally harvesting body parts from cadavers.

At a hearing April 3, members of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee said VA officials need to find solutions to the tracking problems quickly, before serious health problems arise.

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## **Israeli Veterans Protesting Zionist Harassment And Abuse Of Palestinians In Hebron Are Harassed And Abused In Hebron: Their Movement “Aims To Shed Light On Army’s Operations In The**



# West Bank, Especially On Human Rights Violations”

## BTS Workers Say “Authorities And Settlers Joined Forces To Prevent Them From Leading Tours In Hebron”

“The Police Prevented One Of Our Tours From Entering The City Due To ‘Special Security Alerts.’ At The Same Time, We Saw Convoys Of Settlers And Their Guests Coming”



Yahuda Shaul of Breaking the Silence leading a tour in Hebron (photo: Activestills.org)

April 3, 2014 By Noam Sheizaf, +972 Magazine

The founder of IDF watchdog group Breaking the Silence (BTS), Yehuda Shaul, was detained in Hebron on Tuesday as he was leading a tour in the Jewish settlement located in the heart of the city.

**According to the organization's spokesperson, Avner Gvaryahu, Shaul was confronted by an IDF company commander, who prevented him from continuing on his way, despite the fact that the area is considered public space and that Jewish groups use those streets frequently.**

**Shaul was detained after arguing with the officer.**

**Shaul, who was released from the Hebron police station later that night, was banned from the area for 14 days, which means he will not be able to lead tours in the city. Breaking the Silence is planning a tour for 250 people in the city on Friday.**

Breaking the Silence, which holds frequent tours both in the city as well and in the south Hebron Hills, was formed by former IDF soldiers and officers who served in the occupied territories.

The organization aims to shed light on the army's operations in the West Bank, and especially on human rights violations.

Hebron is the only city in which a population of several hundred settlers live among an occupied population, surrounded by heavy army presence.

**Shaul himself served in Hebron and is considered an expert on issues regarding the military control of the city.**

**Recently, BTS workers have complained that both the authorities and settlers have joined forces in an attempt to prevent them from leading tours in Hebron.**

**According to Gvaryahu, both the tours that were cancelled, as well as the orders banning BTS workers from entering the city, were issued "on strange and unfounded claims."**

**"A month ago, the police prevented one of our tours from entering the city due to 'special security alerts.' At the same time, we saw convoys of settlers and their guests coming."**

Hebron is the largest Palestinian city in the West Bank. The presence of a large number of settlers and soldiers in the city has changed parts of it dramatically over the last 20 years.

Some streets are only accessible to Jews, while Palestinians shops and apartments are abandoned and the old market remains closed.

**"Breaking the Silence was started by 65 soldiers and officers that served for months in Hebron," said Gvaryahu.**

**"This is where it all began for us. The city is a microcosm of the occupation.**

It is where it manifests itself most clearly. You see the shops closed, the empty streets. You can't stay indifferent to it, and this is why they (the authorities) want as few outsiders as possible exposed to these sights."

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## 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'

# Blindfolded

Written by Dennis Serdel: Military Resistance 2010; Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade; United Auto Workers GM Retiree

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## Blindfolded

I was born in March of 1947  
when my Father came home from WWII  
and married my Mother who worked  
as a Secretary in Kalamazoo.  
Yes, I am a true "Baby Boomer" or  
in other words a "War Baby" born  
from the "Greatest Generation."  
I now know how they are going to handle  
the influx of all the "Baby Boomers"  
who are beginning to retire.  
The Companies are going bankrupt,  
They Say, and will Not pay me any  
Retirement pay or Health Care.  
But in the 1960's, it was my turn to serve  
in the Army in Vietnam because  
I was fighting Against the Idea  
that a Country's wealth should be  
evenly spread to All the Citizens  
as fair as possible.  
Instead, I was fighting for the Idea  
that a Few people should own  
the Wealth of a Country  
and the rest of the Citizens  
should be poor.  
But when I came home from the War  
I joined a Union and I was Not poor  
but "Middle Class."  
However, it looks like I shall return  
to my proper place again  
that being poor as the Unions are  
being stabbed in the back by  
Obama who represents the Few.  
Did I mention that my Son is a  
"War Baby" from America's  
"Worst Generation ? "  
So let him be especially  
laid off fired let go and poor.  
The Iraq and Afghanistan Soldiers  
and Veterans are another

**“Greatest Generation” who do  
what they are told to do by the Few  
but it looks like they will be poor  
anyway because that is the way  
America wants them to be.  
A Few people have all the money  
and the rest of the Citizens are poor.  
So I have taken on the job of  
convincing our new “Greatest Generation”  
that when the Wars are over,  
they will be tossed aside like  
used toilet paper and their reward  
will be to work hard at slave Worker  
wages to raise their “War Babies.”  
The government blindfolds them  
now with yellow ribbons,  
parades with all the trimmings  
all the welcome backs  
and elaborate funerals to assure  
them that their Country really  
appreciates them for fighting  
and dying for the Idea of America.  
The greatest fear that the Few have  
who own all the wealth have  
is giving guns and ammo to the poor  
people like our Iraq and Afghanistan  
Soldiers.  
I mean, gee whizz Uncle Sam Few,  
you really do fear that after you  
keep stepping on their poor Mothers  
and Fathers, Aunts and Uncles,  
Brothers and Sisters  
Cousins and Neighbors  
and Friends that the Soldiers  
just might get together  
and march on Washington  
DC and NY City  
to eliminate the Few.**

### **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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you  
request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

# **Notes From The Ukrainian Revolution:**

**“The Crowds Who Have Accomplished This Victory For ‘Peoples’ Power’ Unite People Of All Classes And All Ethnicities”**

**“Not Just Native Speakers Of Russian And Ukrainian, But Also Moslems, Jews, And Various Nationalities Of The Caucasus”**

**“The Percentage Of Voters Identified With Far-Right Parties In The Ukraine Is Lower Than That In France And Austria”**

As Victor Serge observed during the failed German Revolution of 1923, the rise of fascism depends on two factors: 1) despair among the active, youthful, combative elements of society of a liberal or communist solution to capitalism's problems, and 2) the backing of big capital and the military.

2.25.14 by Richard Greeman, PM Press [Excerpts]

The crowds who have accomplished this victory for ‘peoples’ power’ unite people of all classes and all ethnicities, including not just native speakers of Russian and Ukrainian, but also Moslems, Jews, and various nationalities of the Caucasus.

A recent interview with a marvelously lucid and well-informed Ukrainian revolutionary syndicalist named Vlatislav, who has been in the thick of things, confirms the spontaneous, self-organized, multi-class and multi-ethnic composition of the revolutionary crowds.

He dismisses the idea that the people are ‘pro-Europe’ as anachronistic, dating from the early days of the occupation, when it was largely symbolic.

As for the divide between the Russian-speaking East and the Ukrainian-speaking West, Vlatislav thinks it is “often exaggerated to the point where the existence of a single Ukrainian nation is even denied. I think Ukraine is still a more unified nation-state than Belgium, for example.”

**This is confirmed by polls that show fewer than 9% of Ukrainians in both geographical areas want to see Ukraine divided.**

Indeed, Vlatislav explains how this linguistic division has actually been favorable to the Ukrainian working people, for “it was the main reason why in Ukraine the ruling class failed to establish an authoritarian regime in the mould of Russia or Belarus: it ensured that no politician has ever had support from the majority of the population.

Therefore, they had to balance and make concessions to the weak working class: bourgeois democracy was retained, and welfare state elements are much more generous than in Russia.”

No wonder the US and Europe are calling for a strong central government capable of imposing IMF-style austerity!

No wonder the NY Times laments that no such unity emerged from the ‘Orange Revolution’ of 2004.

One hopes that a more democratic Ukraine will be able to continue playing off Russia and the West against each other to keep its independence.

Otherwise the choice is grim: on the one hand return to neo-Stalinist semi-dictatorship under a Putin clone, on the other IMF-imposed austerity and eternal debt servitude to the German banks.

**In any case, once in power Yanukovich introduced anti-worker austerity and neo-liberal reforms, privatizing everything in sight, often (like the Presidential Palace) to his family’s enormous profit, which explains why he was universally hated.**

As Vlatislav testifies: “The natural gas tariffs were growing; the government launched medical reform which will eventually lead to closure of many medical institutions and to introducing the universal medical insurance instead of the unconditional coverage; they pushed through extremely unpopular pension reform (raising pension age for women) against the will of more than 90% of population; there was an attempt at passing the new Labor Code which would seriously affect workers’ rights; the railway is being corporatized; finally, they passed a new Tax Code which hit small business.”

Another observer who stresses the autonomous character of the Ukrainian revolution is Adrian Ivakhiv, who blogs at Ukrainian Temporary Autonomous Zone and discusses “The ‘Threat’ of Direct Democracy in Ukraine.”

Ivakhiv makes a useful distinction between three types of democracy: authoritarian (à la Putin), liberal (the EU), and direct, exemplified by people power in Ukraine.

**He also deals with the question of nationalist and right-wing influences in the revolution, pointing out although the neo-fascists, who love to fight, were well-**

**represented on the barricades, the percentage of voters identified with far-right parties in the Ukraine is lower than that in France and Austria.**

To conclude: the first phase, democratic of the Ukraine's ongoing revolution is now complete. The tyrant, abandoned even by his own party, has fled. The repressive apparatus has been neutralized, and the former Defense Minister responsible for the sniper shootings of dozens of demonstrators is on trial. The Constitution of 2004 has been restored in satisfaction of a major popular demand.

Today's Ukrainians remember their so-called Orange Revolution, which soon mired in corruption. The masses, although peaceful for the moment, remain armed and mobilized. The question is, What will happen in the next, in the social phase of this revolution?

Chris Kinder, on the Eco-Rev list serve, has raised some very serious problems, impossible to dismiss as propaganda, about the history of fascism and right-wing nationalism in Ukraine and the many threats to a possible democracy there which need to be taken into consideration.

As Victor Serge observed during the failed German Revolution of 1923, the rise of fascism depends on two factors: 1) despair among the active, youthful, combative elements of society of a liberal or communist solution to capitalism's problems, and 2) the backing of big capital and the military.

To me, the ultimate outcome largely depends popular struggles and solidarity on the international scene.

The potential tragedy of the Ukrainian revolution (and indeed mutatis mutandi of all the 'successful' popular uprisings since 2011 from Egypt on) is that confined to the national context the political leadership gets taken over or overtaken by a rival section of the local ruling class (military, religious, nationalist), normally backed by a rival imperialism.

**The one thing all these conflicting bourgeois interests have in common is the will to defeat and destroy the popular, democratic uprisings which, if allowed to come to power, would inevitably, being majoritarian, demand more social equality and thus threaten the interests of the rich and power elites.**

**Such a successful revolution would set a very 'bad' example for the planet's billions.**

**As Victor Serge reminds us, in 1917-18 during the First World War, fourteen imperialist nations put aside their deadly conflicts in order to crush the Russian Revolution, while in the Ukraine (whose name means 'Borderland') White Russias, Germans, Rumanians, French and Poles intervened militarily and financed local parties.**

**Today we have the same actors interfering Ukraine, plus the U.S. (not always aligned with the 'fucking' European Union...)**

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## Sergeants Major Academy Spokesman Admits E-9s Are 'Pretty Much Worthless'



Photo Credit: US Army

April 8, 2014 By ArmyJ, The Duffle Blog

FORT BLISS, Texas — Sergeants Major across the Army have reacted with stunned outrage after candid comments from a spokesman for the Sergeants Major Academy were included in a recent story in the Army Times newspaper.

Command Sgt. Maj. Rory Malloy, current commandant of the Sergeants Major Academy system of professional NCO education, admitted during an interview with Times' reporter Leo Shane that the rank and position were both "pretty much worthless."

Malloy also went on to describe how the position of sergeant major was simply a by-product of having to put someone in charge of the first sergeants. "There was really no other reason for it," he said.

"We [at the Sergeant Major Academy] tried to do our best to minimize the damage this position could inflict on the functional Army, teaching things like uniform standards, blind adherence to outdated regulations, and a total disregard for the Army training cycle," Malloy says in the interview, which was published Tuesday.

"Unfortunately the whole thing took on a life of its own. Soon command sergeants major were getting their own parking spots and being allowed to speak in settings they had no business being in, like training meetings."

The Times report, which noted the creation of the rank was for administrative purposes only, details the incredible damage inflicted upon the Army in following years.

“You can’t have first sergeants running around without someone in charge of them,” Malloy said. “But this, this is just wrong. We should all just retire after E-8. That’s the last time any of us had actually contributed to the military.”

Although the Pentagon did not respond to a request for comment, sources claimed that weeping could be heard coming from Command Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler’s office, where he had remained locked inside for the past 24 hours.

Meanwhile, another source admitted that when the announcement was made, Gen. Ray Odierno began laughing so hard that he had to leave the room.

UPDATE: The Pentagon released a statement claiming that The Department of the Army fully supports the implementation of the position of Sergeant Major, and “greatly appreciates the invaluable contributions that the men and women holding that rank offer the service in area beautification, uniform inspection, and reflective belt enforcement roles.”

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



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

**Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the email address if you wish and we’ll send it regularly with your best wishes. Whether in Afghanistan or at a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to 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.**

## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

# **“First Day Of A General Strike In Benghazi Over Deteriorating Security Situation In The City Has Left The Airport Closed, Shops Shut And Streets Deserted” “It Is A Total Shutdown. Everything Is Closed”**

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

6 April 2014 By Ayman Amzein, Libya Herald

Benghazi

The first day of a general strike in Benghazi over the deteriorating security situation in the city has left the airport closed, shops shut and streets deserted.

Today is the first day of a planned general strike, which has been planned for over a week.

The strike is in protest against the lack of action taken by the government and the General National Congress (GNC) to improve the dire security situation in Benghazi. Military and security personnel in the city have been systematically targeted for over a year and several hundred have been assassinated in individual attacks.

“It is a total shutdown. Everything is closed,” one local resident told the Libya Herald.

“The banks, schools and shops are all closed and there are hardly any cars on the road.” He added that Sunday lunchtime was normally one of the worst times for traffic in Benghazi.

Oil companies and universities also closed Sunday, heeding a call by political groups for a day of “civil disobedience” to demand better security, witnesses said.

Benghazi’s Benina Airport is also closed with no flights able to operate in or out of the airport. The Airport Road was, this morning, blocked with tyres to prevent people driving up to the airport. Several other roads in the city were blocked, including Jamal Street.

"The reason behind closing Benina airport today is in solidarity with the citizens of Benina and Benghazi on their civil disobedience," said the airport General Manager Ibrahim Ferkash.

The city's schools and the university are closed and say they will remain so until Thursday.

**The strikers are calling for Libya's General National Congress (GNC) assembly to resign immediately.**

**The GNC's initial mandate expired on Feb. 7, however, Islamists led a motion to extend its mandate by another year. Parliament recently voted to hold early elections this spring, but protests against lawmakers continue.**

**MORE:**

## **Much Of Tripoli Is At A Standstill: "A Show Of Solidarity With Benghazi, Where A General Strike In Protest Against The Security Situation In The City Is Underway"**

6 April 2014 By Libya Herald staff

Much of Tripoli is at a standstill this afternoon, with multiple road closures leading to total gridlock in some areas of the capital.

The Airport Road, where several blockades had been made with burning tyres, was one of the first roads reported closed. By late afternoon one motorist reported that access to the airport had been blocked in different places, seemingly making it impossible to reach.

The road closures are understood to be a show of solidarity with Benghazi, where a general strike in protest against the security situation in the city is underway. The action in Benghazi has been planned for ten days.

"This is a nightmare," said one mother stuck on Gurji roundabout with two young children in the car. "I have been here for two hours hardly moving and people have started shooting and shouting and swearing." She said this was terrifying for both herself and the children.

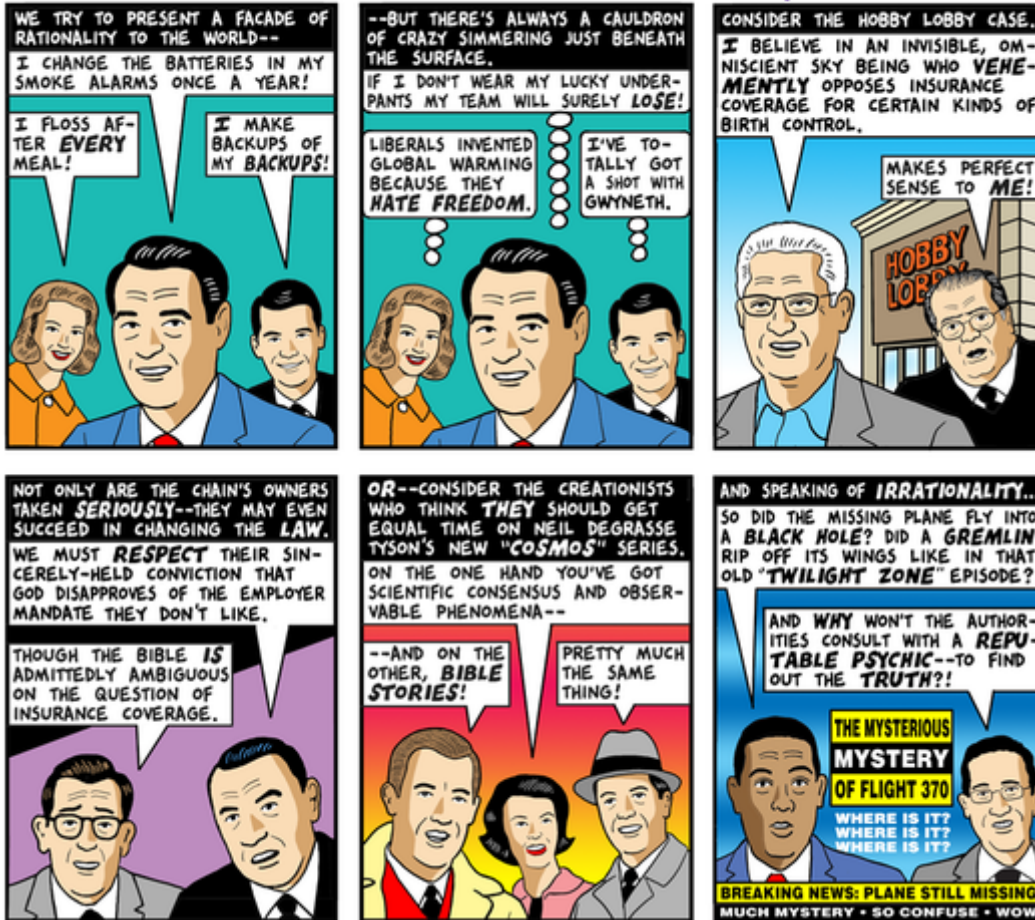
Another motorist said that every minute more roads were being blocked.

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# DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK

## **THIS MODERN WORLD**

by TOM TOMORROW



## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

### Zionist Terrorist Settler Mob Attacks Palestinians, As Usual

04/04/2014 Ma'an

JERUSALEM (Ma'an) -- Dozens of settlers raided the Palestinian neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah in East Jerusalem on Friday, vandalizing property and attacking residents.

Resident Umm Khaled Atiyeh told Ma'an that around 50 settlers raided the area and threw stones at houses, cars, and locals.

Four Palestinians were lightly injured in the attack.

Israeli police arrested Murad Atiyeh, 17, and Muhammad Atiyeh, 20, after assaulting them, witnesses added.

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## **Settler Attack Uproots 650 Grape Vines On Palestinian Land South Of Bethlehem**

04/7/2014 Ma'an

BETHLEHEM -- Israeli settlers on Saturday uprooted 350 grape vines in the village of al-Khadr south of Bethlehem, a local popular committee spokesman said.

Ahmad Salah said settlers destroyed 200 vines that were four years old and another 150 that were planted only two months earlier.

The settlers also stole metal stakes used to support the vines, Salah said.

On Friday, settlers destroyed over 300 newly planted grape vines in the same village.

In 2013, there were 399 incidents of settler violence against Palestinians and their property in the occupied West Bank, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Over 90 percent of investigations into settler violence by Israeli police fail to lead to an indictment.

More than 500,000 Israeli settlers live in settlements across the West Bank and East Jerusalem, in contravention of international law.

**To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:**

**<http://www.maannews.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



### **Georgia Cop Pulls Gun On 11-Year-Old Black Child For Building A Tree House:**

**“Mom, He Had A Gun In My Face, Mommy. Mommy, He Had A Gun In My Face”**

**“After Using Foul Language, The Officer Ordered The Children To Get On The Ground, Omari Said”**

Hopefully one day, instead of being sent to die in stupid occupations like Afghanistan, our troops will serve a more useful purpose: sweeping this enemy in blue off our streets once and for all. T

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Police in Georgia are investigating reports that officers pulled a gun on African-American children who were building a tree house in their neighborhood.

Omari Grant, 11, told WSB-TV that he and several friends were behind his home constructing the tree fort when a neighbor called 911 with concerns' about the children's safety.

"There were falling hazards, tripping hazards, all types of hazards, so No. 1 was concern for the children and concern for the environment," Edgar Dillard, whose wife made the 911 call, explained.

And the Henry County police officers who showed up took the call so seriously that they were prepared to use deadly force.

"I guess the release of tension was like, 'Mom, he had a gun in my face, Mommy. Mommy, he had a gun in my face,'" Omari's mother, Janice Baptiste, said. "So my son was of course traumatized by that."

Omari recalled what happened: "I was thinking that I don't want to be shot today, so I just listened to what they said."

After using foul language, the officer ordered the children to get on the ground, Omari said.

"I learned that they're supposed to help you not make you feel scared to even come outside," the 11-year-old explained.

Henry County Police Department spokesperson Sgt. Joey Smith said that the department began investigating after Omari's mother filed a complaint about excessive use of force.

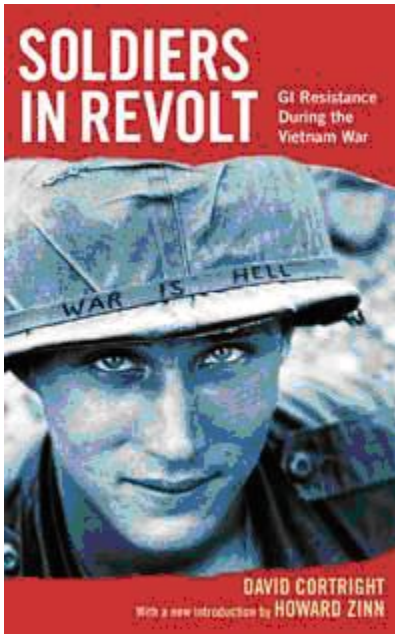
"If it was justified then we'll deal with it, if it wasn't we'll address it as well," Smith insisted.

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