

## Military Resistance 12J6



**“A Group Of Iraqi Soldiers Break Ranks And Flee In Terror”**

**“They Had No Experience Fighting, And They Were Yelling And Panicking”**

**“Former General More Pointed About Iraq’s Battlefield Performance: ‘Ridiculous’”**

# **“We Know That We’re Lying To People, But We’re Trying To Prevent Them From Collapsing”**

## **“Nothing Is Coming And We Don’t Know Why. But Of Course, We Don’t Tell This To The People”**

Oct. 24, 2014 By Matt Bradley in Baghdad and Julian E. Barnes in Washington, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

**Just 15 minutes into a recent battle with Islamic State in the town of Dhuluiya, Ibrahim Thiab watched a group of Iraqi soldiers break ranks and flee in terror.**

**Mr. Thiab, a former general under Saddam Hussein, commands a unit of tribal fighters also defending Dhuluiya, located 45 miles northeast of Baghdad. Instead of criticism, though, the combat veteran offered sympathy.**

**“They had no experience fighting, and they were yelling and panicking,” said Mr. Thiab, who sought out the frightened troops and promised them help from his civilian forces. The former general was more pointed about Iraq’s battlefield performance against Islamic State invaders: “Ridiculous,” he said.**

**The weakness of Iraq’s U.S.-trained military is a growing international worry as Islamic State fighters threaten Baghdad, with attacks as close as 12 miles west of the capital.**

The U.S. and its Arab and Western partners find themselves having to rely on an Iraqi army ill-prepared to fight Islamic State—even with the help of allied warplanes—as militants press their campaign to topple Iraq’s government.

Iraq has gathered its most competent troops to defend and fortify Baghdad, leaving the fight for Dhuluiya and other Iraqi cities outside the capital to a hodgepodge of army troops and irregular forces: Sunni Muslim tribesmen, Shiite militias and civilians led by such Hussein-era military officers as Mr. Thiab.

Iraq’s weak military is a legacy of the eight-year rule of former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, who replaced competent Sunni military officers in northern and western Iraq with political loyalists and fellow Shiite Muslims, U.S. military officials said.

Skilled Shiite military officers were passed over or demoted, while more politically pliant men advanced, U.S. defense officials said, damaging Iraq’s military leadership nationwide. Mr. Maliki, who stepped down last month, served as commander-in-chief, a post he used to micromanage the military, bypassing his Sunni defense minister, U.S. and Iraqi officials said.

After Islamic State first captured a large stretch of northern Iraq, President Barack Obama in June ordered U.S. military advisers to the country.

The advisers concluded in a mid-July report to the White House that 24 out of the Iraqi army's 50 brigades weren't worth training because their commanders, weapons and training were inadequate, U.S. officials said. White House officials said this week that six Iraqi brigades were undergoing a retraining program conducted by the Iraqi government.

Formal consultations with Iraq's military are under way, but U.S. officials estimate the ability to mount large offensive operations is months away.

**It might take more than a year, they said, before Iraq is ready to try to recapture Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, which fell to Islamic State this summer.**

For now, Iraqi units will focus on defensive operations, U.S. defense officials said, as they struggle to keep the Mosul Dam, the Baghdad International Airport and other strategic locations from Islamic State control.

While the U.S.-led training effort gets up and running, the people of Dhuluiya are battling Islamic State fighters, who first attacked on June 13, as well as what they describe as an indifferent national government.

Islamic State Forces regularly carry out assaults on the outskirts of the town, which sits in a bend of the Tigris River.

**“We Keep Hearing From The Government, From The Americans, That Military Operations Are About To Be Launched. There's Nothing Real On The Ground”**

Food and other staples are running out; medical care has deteriorated. With limited access to medical facilities, some wounded fighters are treated on schoolroom desks.

Leaders in Dhuluiya said they have asked the government for more troops, but “the army support is very, very slow,” said Sha'alan Ahmed, a Dhuluiya resident who has been fighting Islamic State with the Al Juburi tribe, one of the local Sunni tribes.

“We keep hearing from the government, from the Americans, that military operations are about to be launched,” Mr. Ahmed said.

“But this is just words and promises. There's nothing real on the ground.”

Maj. Curtis Kellogg, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said the U.S. has been monitoring Dhuluiya, and Iraqi security forces were “postured to contain” Islamic State fighters in the city.

More broadly, he said, “we're watching the situation there closely and are continuing to support the [Iraqi security forces] with airstrikes when required.”

In recent weeks, Islamic State fighters have made significant gains west of Baghdad in Anbar, a large but sparsely populated province that shares a border with Syria and Jordan.

A collapse of government forces there would put Baghdad in peril, local officials said, by giving militants a launching point for mortars and rockets. Both Iraqi and U.S. officials have said Baghdad is too heavily fortified to be overrun, but a defeat in Anbar would expose the capital to direct attacks.

**In Dhuluiya, north of Baghdad, besieged local fighters complain the central government has ignored their pleas for help.**

Hussein al-Jobouri, a former Saddam Hussein military officer who now commands a militia, said Iraq's military sent about 150 troops to the region in recent days but the men lacked the firepower to vanquish Islamic State militants entrenched there.

He said the town needed explosives experts to neutralize the improvised explosive devices set by Islamic State.

"Give me full military support, from fighter jets to tanks and explosives experts and I'll liberate Dhuluiya in one day," Mr. Jobouri said.

Many of the government troops defending Dhuluiya are brave, local fighters said. But the soldiers, mostly Shiite Muslims from southern Iraq, need more help: They are trapped in town, surrounded by Islamic State fighters and IEDs.

"Dhuluiya just needs one brigade with full air support. That would be enough to free Dhuluiya from Islamic State within 24 hours," Mr. Thiab said, echoing Mr. Jobouri.

**Ghassan al-Hussaini, an adviser to Mr. Maliki's successor, Mr. Abadi, said Dhuluiya doesn't need reinforcements.**

**Residents and tribal leaders of Dhuluiya said Shiite politicians who hold sway in Baghdad won't send help because their town is predominantly Sunni.**

As evidence of a sectarian double standard, they cite military efforts—including U.S. airstrikes—to successfully retake Amirli, the Shiite-majority town north of Dhuluiya, from Islamic State in early September.

"They still look at us as unwanted Sunnis," said Riyadh Abdullah, one of the Sunni tribal sheiks fighting in Dhuluiya.

Brigadier Hameed denied any favoritism in the military's calculations. Shiite soldiers are dying by the thousands to protect Sunni civilians, he said. U.S. officials said, however, sectarian divisions were likely to continue shadowing Iraq's fight with Islamic State.

**Political grudges, fueled by religious differences, surfaced when Islamic State fighters in June charged into Dhuluiya, three days after taking Mosul.**

**Many residents, instead of fleeing the fighters' advance, welcomed them to replace the Shiite-dominated security forces Baghdad put in town.**

Tribal leaders sent word to the capital, asking for troops to retake the town. Even though they had briefly supported Islamic State, Dhuluiya leaders said, they were assured that help was coming.

The Iraqi soldiers didn't arrive.

### **“We Know That We’re Lying To People, But We’re Trying To Prevent Them From Collapsing”**

By mid-July, Sunni tribal fighters drove Islamic State forces from the center of town. A bomber detonated a car filled with explosives on a bridge over the Tigris River that connected Dhuluiya with the city of Balad and its large military encampment.

Tribal fighters teamed with local police in late August to repair the bridge, braving fire from Islamic State snipers.

Shortly after the bridge reopened, Mr. Thiab and his men were relieved to see the arrival of more than 100 Iraqi troops in Humvees and armored cars.

For the next several weeks, the inexperienced soldiers fought as heroes, said Mr. Ahmed and other Dhuluiya residents. But they weren't enough.

A delegation of senior tribal figures went to Baghdad to meet the new prime minister, the speaker of parliament and the president. The government promised more help.

A few weeks later, Islamic State launched another assault on the bridge connecting Balad with Dhuluiya: Eight boatloads of explosives were detonated in suicide attacks that brought down the structure.

This time, the military saved the town. Working under cover of darkness, soldiers mended the causeway, residents said.

The damaged bridge now supports light traffic but not the heavy weaponry that Dhuluiya's leaders say are needed to win the fight.

Mr. Thiab said angry residents have turned against him for failing to eradicate Islamic State fighters. He said he believes the government wants its troops close to Baghdad, leaving the people of Dhuluiya on their own.

**Now, he said, he finds himself resorting to false promises. “We know that we’re lying to people, but we’re trying to prevent them from collapsing,” Mr. Thiab said.**

**“We tell them that other areas are worse. We know this isn’t true and that nothing is coming and we don’t know why. But of course, we don’t tell this to the people.”**

---

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# **Nawzad District On The Verge Of “Takeover By The Taliban” “We Only Have Control Over The Official District Building And Some Small Areas”**

24 October 2014 by Sayed Tariq Majidi, TOLONews

A number of residents and local officials of Nawzad district of southern Helmand province on Friday raised apprehensions on the possibility of the district's collapse and takeover by the Taliban.

“It's no secret that the security situation is really bad,” District Governor Sayed Murad Sadaat said. “We only have control over the official district building and some small areas.”

They stress that if the government does not deploy additional troops to the district, the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) will lose the control.

News of the deteriorating security in Nawzad comes as clashes between insurgents and the ANSF continue in Sangin district of Helmand as well.

Reports indicate that the infrastructure in the district has not developed much in the past 13 years; many residents are unemployed and live in poverty.

“We don't have security. We face danger every day when we leave our houses,” Lal Gul one of the district residents said.

Another resident Mohammad raised concerns over unemployment, adding that “all schools are closed to children because the Taliban have captured all areas.”

---

## **40 Nuristan Provincial Police Go Over To Taliban**

Oct. 24 Al-Emarah News

NURISTAN – Al-Emarah News says that 40 personnel of so-called Afghan National Police (ANP) switched side to the Islamic Emirate and joined the Mujahideen in Want district of Nuristan province on Thursday.

The former police handed over their arms and ammo to Mujahideen, pledging support to Mujahideen of the Islamic Emirate.

The surrender came during a meeting hosted by the Mujahideen district governor and participated by more 300 villagers and the tribal leaders who warmly welcomed the former police.

---

## **Rocket Lands In Wazir Akbar Khan Area Of Kabul City: “Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan Is A High-Security Area In Capital Kabul Which Is Home To Embassies And Diplomatic Missions”**

Oct 24 2014 By Khaama Press

A relatively heavy explosion rocked capital Kabul late Friday night after a rocket landed in Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan area of the city.

A security official confirmed that a rocket has landed in the 14th street of Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan. There are no reports regarding the casualties so far.

In the meantime, deputy interior minister for security Gen. Ayub Salangi said a rocket landed on a tree in Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan area.

Gen. Salangi further added there were casualties following the incident.

Kabul police spokesman, Hashmat Stanikzai also confirmed that there were no loss of damage following the rocket attack which took place in the 14th street of Wazir Akbar Khan area around 8:10 pm local time.

Wazir Mohammad Akbar Khan is a high-security area in capital Kabul which is home to embassies and diplomatic missions.

---

## **Two Afghan Districts, Bordering With Tajikistan, Can Fall To The Taliban**

10/24/14 AKIpress

Bishkek --

Afghan authorities of Kunduz province are concerned about the situation in Dashti Archi and Imam Sahib districts, bordering with Tajikistan, according to the Afghan Service of RFE/RL.

Head of Dashti Archi district Nasriddin Sadi said that if the government doesn't conduct a special operation, the district can move under the control of militants of the Taliban movement.

**According to him, there are about 55 rebel groups in the district, including militants from Pakistan and Uzbekistan, with total number of 600-650 people.**

Head of Imam Sahib district Amoniddin Kurayshi said that the situation in his district is a little better, but is also alarming.

**300 militants attack our post with 20 people only stationed, he says.**

Kunduz province is bordering with Khatlon region of Tajikistan.

---

## **Insurgent Offensive In Wardoj District**

Oct 26 AP

KABUL, Afghanistan -- Afghan officials say that insurgents have attacked several police checkpoints in the northeast of the country, killing four police officers.

General Abdul Qadir Sayad, deputy police chief in Badakhshan province said on Sunday that a large number of insurgents simultaneously attacked several checkpoints in Wardoj district late on Saturday, and that at least four police officers had died while another seven were injured.

Several members of the security forces are still missing, he said, and casualty figures could rise.

---

## **Taliban Statement “Regarding The New Handpicked US Employee In Kabul”**

# **“Such Peculiar Actions Are Meaningless Under The Shadow Of Occupation”**

## **“The Americans Must Understand That This Soil Belongs To Us”**

22 September 2014 Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Shahamat-english.com/

From the first day of occupation of Afghanistan, the American invaders have also employed various dramas, projects and processes to fool the Afghan masses but all have been humiliating failures, all praise is due to Allah alone.

From amongst the deceptive attempts to fool the Afghans were the process of elections which have repeatedly faced failure and exposed its true nature to the masses.

**In order to give this sham election process a facelift, new American employees for the Kabul administration, Ashraf Ghani and Dr. Abdullah, were declared the next so-called President and Chief Executive for the upcoming five year period by an American envoy.**

Such peculiar actions are meaningless under the shadow of occupation and it is only the opinion of the occupiers which believes they have fooled the Afghans and attained their goals namely signing of the Security Agreement.

Inaugurating Ashraf Ghani and installing a freshly ordered administration is in no way acceptable to the Afghans. Just as its process was bogus and humiliating so is its result shameful and such selected faces have always been rejected by the Afghans throughout their history.

The Americans must understand that this soil belongs to us; decisions and resolutions here are only made by the Afghans and not by American Foreign Ministers or envoys.

We believe that the propaganda campaigns under the guise of elections, the sham vote casting exercise, its problematic counting, threats, quarreling and in the end the open American intervention and its magistrative role in appointing victor as well as the masses bearing the economical, mental and other burdens of this long drawn out drama have further exposed the plots of the invaders to each individual and further established the invaders as the brutal enemies of our religion, country, prestige and national unity.

We once again reject this American effort aimed at fooling the Afghans and vow to continue waging armed Jihad until we have completely cleansed our country from occupation and paved the road for a pure Islamic government.

A few pro-American stooges and blackened faces in our history that have a long record in the destruction of our country can never be forced upon the Afghans as their

representatives and neither are the Afghans orphans who would accept these hollow characters as their leaders.

The Islamic Emirate, as a responsible side, considers these bogus elections, its shameful process and the coming about of a unity government as an American plot and neutralizing it as obligation of each and every Muslim.

Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

27/11/1435 Hijri Lunar

31/06/1393 Hijri Solar

22/09/2014 Gregorian

---

## **MILITARY NEWS**

# **Soldiers' Rights Activist Jailed In Russia:**

**The Soldiers' Mothers Of St.  
Petersburg, An Organization With A  
Long History Of Working To Defend  
The Rights Of Soldiers, Condemns  
The Arrest;**

**“Human Rights Activists Consider The  
Detention And Jailing Of Lyudmila  
Bogatenkova As An Act Of Reprisal  
Connected To Her Activities”**

OCT. 18, 2014 Associated Press

MOSCOW — A veteran activist who investigated the deaths and disappearances of Russian soldiers in Ukraine has been jailed, an advocacy group said Saturday.

Ten Russian troops were captured in August in eastern Ukraine amid fighting between pro-Moscow separatists and Ukrainian troops after weeks of Moscow denying

involvement in the Ukrainian conflict. Authorities insisted the captured soldiers got lost while patrolling the border, and the deaths were accidental and happened in Russia.

The Soldiers' Mothers of St. Petersburg, a highly respected non-governmental organization with a long history of working to defend the rights of soldiers, said Saturday that its colleague in southern Russia who was investigating the deaths and disappearances was detained on Friday.

**The group said Lyudmila Bogatenkova, 73, was charged with fraud and ordered to be jailed.**

**“Human rights activists consider the detention and jailing of Lyudmila Bogatenkova as an act of reprisal connected to her activities,” the group said in a statement.**

Bogatenkova and other activists have collected data about dozens of Russian servicemen who were killed in recent months and sent it to investigators, pushing for an inquiry. In August, the presidential human rights commission published an open letter demanding an investigation into the deaths of nine members of a motorized infantry brigade also sent to the southern Rostov region for military exercises.

Similar questions were raised by families of other Russian servicemen about unexplained deaths and missing or captured soldiers who were said to be on military exercises.

**Lev Shlosberg, an opposition activist from the western region of Pskov, was attacked by unknown assailants and sustained brain damage in August shortly after he published an investigation about the death of the Pskov paratroopers.**

**MORE:**

## **[Somebody Blinked] Russian Regime Releases Activist Who Was Investigating Soldiers' Deaths: The Arrest Was “An Act Of Intimidation Connected To Her Activities”**

OCT. 20, 2014 By ALEXANDRA ODYNOVA, New York Times

MOSCOW — A Russian activist who sought to document the deaths of soldiers believed to have been sent covertly to fight in Ukraine was released from custody on Monday for health reasons, according to an advocacy group.

The Soldiers' Mothers Committee in St. Petersburg, an organization that defends the rights of soldiers, announced last week that one of its associates working in southern Russia, Lyudmila Bogatenkova, 73, had been placed in pretrial detention on fraud charges.

The organization called her arrest "an act of intimidation connected to her activities," in a statement.

Ms. Bogatenkova, who was said to be in poor health, was released after she pledged not to leave her town, Budyonnovsk, in the Stavropol region, the organization's spokesman said Monday.

Ms. Bogatenkova was investigating the deaths of soldiers who by official accounts served in the southern Rostov region near the border with Ukraine, but who activists suspected were actually killed or wounded while fighting in Ukraine.

---

## **35 Soldiers "Within The Iraqi Army Were Either Killed Or Injured" By ISIS At Taji Military Camp.**

25 October 2014 AIN

Baghdad (AIN) -35 soldiers within the Iraqi Army were either killed or injured in northern Baghdad.

Security source stated to AIN a bomber attacked one of the gates of Taji Military Camp of northern Baghdad to result in killing seven soldiers and injure 28 others."

---

## **Fucked-Over Croatian Veterans Vow To Continue Protest: "Anger About The Death Of A Disabled Female Ex-Soldier Who Was Taking Part In The Demonstration Earlier This Week"**

# **“Protesters Are Demanding Better Treatment For Disabled Veterans And All Other Ex-Soldiers”**

**“I Have A Son Of 25, And What Has My Struggle Left Him With? A Country Led By ‘Those People’”**



Protesters in front of the war veterans' ministry. Photo: Sven Milekic.

24 Oct 14 by Sven Milekic, BIRN [Excerpts]

Zagreb

The veterans' protest continued in Zagreb on Friday amid anger about the death of a disabled female ex-soldier who was taking part in the demonstration earlier this week, reportedly from exhaustion.

The protesters are demanding better treatment for disabled veterans and all other ex-soldiers, as well as the removal of veterans' minister Predrag Matic and his team.

They have set up an improvised camp in front of the ministry with tents and a fire, aided by well-wishers who have brought food and blankets.

One of the veterans said that they were protesting because they were “disappointed and angry” with the centre-left government's attitude to their sacrifices during the 1991-95 war for independence from Yugoslavia.



Memorial tribute to the protester who died. Photo: Sven Milekic.

“I have a son of 25, and what has my struggle left him with? A country led by ‘those people’,” the veteran, who wanted to remain anonymous, told BIRN.

When Matic came to work on Friday, police were on hand to protect him after an assault on his assistant Bojan Glavasevic earlier in the week. When he arrived, he crossed himself in front of an improvised memorial which has been set up in front of the ministry in memory of disabled female war veteran Nevenka Topalusic, the 60-year-old who died while protesting on Wednesday.

Protesters meanwhile turned their backs on the minister in a show of contempt and sang patriotic songs.

Matic has refused to step down and has been publicly backed by Prime Minister Zoran Milanovic.

Protesters said they intended to continue their sit-in and war veterans’ organisations are planning a round-table discussion in front of the ministry on Tuesday.

A banner on one protest tent outside the ministry says “1991 against Yugoslavia, 2014 against Yugoslavs”, meaning that war veterans who once fought for Croatia against Yugoslavia in 1991 are now fighting for Croatia against politicians who act like they are still Yugoslavs.

---

## 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**

**The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point is to change it.**

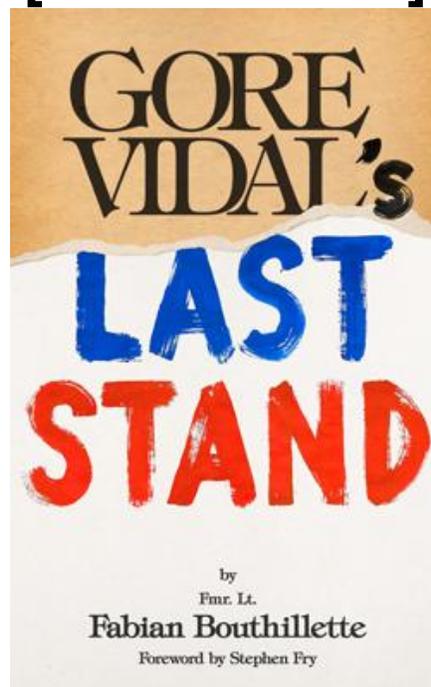
**-- Karl Marx, “Theses on Feuerbach”**

## **Gore Vidal’s Last Stand Part One:**

**“Seeing Duty In The Combat Zone  
Of The Northern Arabian Gulf,  
Bouthillette Felt That America’s  
Invasions Of Iraq And Afghanistan  
Had Little To Do With Anti-  
Terrorism”**

**“Bouthillette’s Outspoken Antiwar  
Activism After His Military Service  
Captured The Attention Of Gore  
Vidal”**

**[Book Review]**



October 20, 2014 Book review by David Busch, Venice, California. The book is available at [www.GoreVidalsLastStand.com](http://www.GoreVidalsLastStand.com)

Tuesday October 21, 2014, at 7:00am PST the leading British celebrity, and internet phenomenon Stephen Fry, known as Britain's "Most Loved Celebrity," largely for the significant impact of his twitter activity, is presenting his eight million twitter followers to an anti-war spokesman for America's veterans --who now says that he will use the massive publicity as a world-wide opportunity to hold U.S. President Barack Obama to account --and to direct more public attention to polls showing that 70% of American troops are now directly opposed to any new moves by the U.S. President to increase combat forces in Iraq.

Despite U. S. President Obama's recent statements to the contrary , another U.S. poll (NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Annenberg poll) shows that 72% of Americans believe that the country is inevitably heading back to deploying massive numbers of U.S. ground forces in Iraq.

The tweet, from the popular left-leaning British celebrity, may also serve, overnight, to rocket the American anti-war veteran's book Gore Vidal's Last Stand: Part One: My American Initiation into the sales stratosphere; perhaps even giving the American anti-war movement a new, young, national spokesperson.

Fabian Bouthillette is a former navy Surface Warfare Officer who served on board the destroyer USS Curtis Wilbur during Operation Enduring Freedom, and also in a combat zone in the Arabian Gulf in 2004, before leaving the navy honorably and going on in 2008 to become the last great confidant of America's most famous and leading liberal, and anti-war intellectual, of the 20th century: Gore Vidal.

"I didn't expect, or want, my book, about my work with Vidal to come out on the eve of what looks too many like another U.S. war in the Middle East, devoid of any strategic vision or plan for peace. But that's really where we're at--again. This time the war is against ISIS.

"But where is the leadership from our President for overall peace in the Middle East? My hope is that Stephen Fry's mere tweet on Tuesday--reaching millions--will now help us in the U.S. peace movement," states Bouthillette.

Adds Bouthillette, "America cannot simply just slip back into a new war there--even against forces as brutal as ISIS. We deserve greater leadership from our President--outlining a long-term new approach to the region that is based in strengthening regional peace between the United States and all the world's Muslim nations."

Bouthillette states, "So, I will use this timing, and this massive international exposure from Stephen Fry, to speak on behalf of America's troops, who have already voiced their opinion through a recent poll from 'America's leading independent armed forces news source,' Military Times.

"An astounding 70% of all our troops today are opposed to going back to war in Iraq again. Our armed forces, especially, deserve better from its leadership. Most importantly, our service members deserve to know that there is a bigger vision for peace in the Middle East, as they are already being sent back there in large numbers for 'training and security.' President Obama needs to show that he's capable of providing us more than just another war."

Part One of Bouthillette's book, Gore Vidal's Last Stand, is about his time at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and his ensuing service aboard CURTIS WILBUR.

After witnessing 9/11 as a midshipman, and then seeing duty in the combat zone of the Northern Arabian Gulf, Bouthillette felt that America's invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan had little to do with anti-terrorism--and in fact, have served to fuel violence worldwide. Bouthillette's outspoken antiwar activism after his military service captured the attention of Gore Vidal, who called him, in his last years, to serve as an assistant, companion, and speaking protégé.

Bouthillette had been a leading figure in New York and Los Angeles, where he now resides, with the American anti-war group, "Iraq Veterans Against the War." As a leading speaker, traveling world-wide with Vidal, Bouthillette has already addressed members of the British House of Commons.

Gore Vidal, author of twenty-four novels, hundreds of essays, and a constant presence on radio and television throughout the second half of the twentieth century, has led him to often be called the twentieth century's greatest American liberal intellect.

Before his recent death in 2012 he was often surrounded by fellow intellectuals and friends, including British Renaissance man Stephen Fry, whom Bouthillette met while working for Vidal. Fry provides the foreword to Gore Vidal's Last Stand.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Fabian Bouthillette**



22 year old Ensign Bouthillette aboard USS CURTIS WILBUR. Fall 2003

- Born in Washington D.C. in 1980 and raised in neighboring Arlington, Virginia.

- Graduated from nationally recognized H-B Woodlawn Program in 1999, and the United States Naval Academy in 2003.

- Served as a Surface Warfare Officer aboard the guided missile destroyer USS CURTIS WILBUR.

- Became an early organizer with Iraq Veterans Against the War in 2006, leading to his introduction to Vidal.

- Served nearly two years as Vidal's assistant, "naval attaché," and pupil.

- Fabian now resides in Los Angeles, California where he is engaged in community and veteran activism, and founded the "Roaming Movement."

### **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.**

## **Iraq: Eleven Years' Worth Of Turning Points And Milestones: [According To U.S. Imperial Bullshit]**

September 16, 2014 By: Peter Van Buren, Firedoglake

Secretary of State John Kerry said on September 8 that the formation of a new Iraqi government was "a major milestone" for the country.

Kerry told reporters at the State Department that the government formed on Monday in Baghdad had "the potential to unite all of Iraq's diverse communities for a strong Iraq, a united Iraq and give those communities a chance to build a future that all Iraqis desire."

Kerry did not mention that divisive former Prime Minister Maliki, who was Washington's man in Baghdad since 2006 tasked with uniting Iraq, stays on in the new government as Vice President.

Kerry also did not mention that the job of uniting Iraq has been on various U.S.-supported Prime Ministers' and other Iraqi officials' to-do lists since 2003, never mind the eventual point of the nine year American Occupation and 4600 American deaths.

**But Kerry did say the week's events are a major milestone.**

**That's the same as the turning point so often mentioned before about Iraq, right?**

**Let's look back:**

"This month will be a political turning point for Iraq," Douglas Feith, July 2003

"We've reached another great turning point," Bush, November 2003

"That toppling of Saddam Hussein... was a turning point for the Middle East," Bush, March 2004

"Turning Point in Iraq," The Nation, April 2004

"A turning point will come two weeks from today," Bush, June 2004

"Marines Did a Good Job in Fallujah, a Battle That Might Prove a Turning Point," Columnist Max Boot, July 2004

"Tomorrow the world will witness a turning point in the history of Iraq," Bush, January 2005

"The Iraqi election of January 30, 2005... will turn out to have been a genuine turning point," William Kristol, February 2005

"On January 30th in Iraq, the world witnessed ... a major turning point," Rumsfeld, February 2005

"I believe may be seen as a turning point in the war in Iraq and the war on terrorism." Senator Joe Lieberman, December 2005

"The elections were the turning point. ... 2005 was the turning point," Cheney, December 2005

"2005 will be recorded as a turning point in the history of Iraq... and the history of freedom," Bush, December 2005

"We believe this is a turning point for the Iraqi citizens, and it's a new chapter in our partnership," Bush, May 2006

"We have now reached a turning point in the struggle between freedom and terror," Bush, May 2006

"This is a turning point for the Iraqi citizens." Bush, August 2006

"When a key Republican senator comes home from Iraq and says the US has to re-think its strategy, is this a new turning point?" NBC Nightly News, October 2006

"Iraq: A Turning Point: Panel II: Reports from Iraq." American Enterprise Institute, January 2007

"This Bush visit could well mark a key turning point in the war in Iraq and the war on terror," Frederick W. Kagan, September 2007

"Bush Defends Iraq War in Speech... he touted the surge as a turning point in a war he acknowledged was faltering a year ago," New York Times, March 2008

"The success of the surge in Iraq will go down in history as a turning point in the war against al-Qaeda," The Telegraph, December 2008

"Iraq's 'Milestone' Day Marred by Fatal Blast," Washington Post, July 2009

"Iraq vote "an important milestone," Obama, March 2010

"Iraq Withdrawal Signals New Phase, But War is Not Over," ABC News, August 2010

"Why the Iraq milestone matters," Foreign Policy, August 2010

"Iraq Milestone No Thanks to Obama," McCain, September 2010

"Hails Iraq 'milestone' after power-sharing deal," Obama, November 2010

"Week's event marks a major milestone for Iraq," Council on Foreign Relations, March 2012

"National elections 'important milestone' for Iraq," Ban Ki Moon, April 2014

"Iraq PM nomination 'key milestone,'" Joe Biden, August 2014

**And Now For Something That Isn't  
Completely Different**

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=627913303994361>

**STUCK ON STUPID**

**Number Virus Out Of Control:  
Pontificators Infected With End-  
Stage Stupid Counting Disease;  
No Known Cure Or Vaccine Yet;**

# [Successor To 2010-2012 “Meme” Epidemic]

Seven Things We Now Know About How the World has Handled Ebola - Daniel W. Drezner (Washington Post)  
Oct 15, 2014 Portside

30 of the Most Violent Exhortations from the Bible, Torah and Quran  
Valerie Tarico, AlterNet

6 Big Problems With America's Ebola Response, According to a Leading Infectious Disease Specialist  
Steven Rosenfeld, AlterNet

8 Biggest Myths About Ebola, Debunked  
By James Ball, The Guardian

7 Disastrous Outcomes of Our New War in the Middle East  
Peter Van Buren, Tom Dispatch

8 Mistakes We're Making About Ebola That We Also Made When AIDS Appeared  
Larry Schwartz, AlterNet

5 Reasons to Stop Talking Sh\*t About People From the South and Midwest  
Greta Christina, AlterNet

Ten Reasons Why You Should Care What You Wear  
Sarah Streat and Ronnie Cummins, Organic Consumers Association:

4 Weirdest Things We Learned About Sex This Week  
By Katie Halper, AlterNet

7 Disastrous Outcomes of Our New War in the Middle East  
Peter Van Buren, Tom Dispatch

10 Facts You Need to Know About the Devastating Disease You or Someone You Love Will Likely Get  
Janet Allon, AlterNet

6 Brave Researchers Busting the Myths Behind Everything We Think We Know About Drugs  
April M. Short, AlterNet

12 Surprising Facts About Non-Monogamy  
By Zhana Vrangalova, AlterNet

6 Dumbest Right-Wing Moments This Week: Ebola Stupidity Rages On  
Janet Allon, AlterNet

8 Facts About American Inequality  
By Pierce Nahigyan, Countercurrents

4 Terrible Mistakes We Can't Afford to Make With Ebola  
By Karen Greenberg, TomDispatch

5 Most Pathetic Female Movie Characters  
By Lindy West, The Guardian

5 Most Extremist GOPers Who Might Be Headed to Congress  
Right Wing Watch

7 Cities That Are Playgrounds for the Rich and Terrors for the Poor  
Aaron Cantú, AlterNet

5 Craziest Right-Wing Moments this Week: Christian Celeb's Bonkers Ideas about  
Halloween  
Janet Allon, AlterNet

4 Major Food Companies You Should Pressure to Ensure You Know What's in Your  
Food  
Katherine Paul and Ronnie Cummins, AlterNet

---

## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

**Ecuador, Bolivia, Among  
Despicable Governments Getting  
Paid To Continue Their Racist  
Military Occupation Of Haiti:  
“Leaders Of Countries Like Bolivia,  
Ecuador And Uruguay Present  
Themselves As Being Independent  
And Anti-Imperialistic, Yet They Do  
As The US Says, As Per Tradition”**

# National Capitalist Regimes Rake In The Money To “Harass, Shoot, Prostitute, Infect And Rape As A Matter Of Routine”

Venezuela does not participate in MINUSTAH, but it is helping the current Haitian regime to build villas on Ile a Vache, an offshore island that the regime’s ministry of tourism is trying to expropriate forcibly from its residents.

October 20, 2014 by DADY CHERY, CounterPunch [Excerpts]

**For the 10th year since the forcible removal of elected Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide from Haiti, the United Nations has renewed the mandate of an occupying “peacekeeping force” in the country.**

The unanimous vote about Haiti happened in an October 14, 2014 meeting of the Security Council that took less than 25 minutes.

The UN’s occupation of Haiti with its Stabilization Mission (Mission des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en Haïti, MINUSTAH) is not merely due to the high-handed decisions of its Security Council.

At a meeting of the General Assembly on May 7, 2014, for example, when the Secretary General proposed a reduction of MINUSTAH’s yearly budget from \$575.89 to \$511.31 millions, Brazil proposed that the UN troops should be replaced with UN law enforcement for the same budget.

Guatemala argued that the higher sum would be needed to support MINUSTAH’s “essential role in helping Haiti hold legislative and local elections expected later this year,” and Haiti’s representatives said that MINUSTAH could not withstand this 11.2 percent budget reduction because of its need for “a well-balanced budget to fight cholera, among other challenges.”

**The disparity between Haitian public opinion, which has for years demanded an immediate and total removal of MINUSTAH, and the statements of its politicians is to be expected.**

Haiti’s representatives were, after all, installed in UN-sponsored elections that excluded the Fanmi Lavalas party and 80 percent of the electorate.

For their repression of Haitians, Brazil and Guatemala expect, not only prestige on the world scene, but also a significant chunk of MINUSTAH’s massive yearly budget.

**Other Latin-American occupiers of Haiti with similar aspirations include Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay.**

**Venezuela does not participate in MINUSTAH, but it is helping the current Haitian regime to build villas on Ile a Vache, an offshore island that the regime's ministry of tourism is trying to expropriate forcibly from its residents.**

Leaders of countries like Bolivia, Ecuador and Uruguay present themselves as being independent and anti-imperialistic, yet they do as the US says, as per tradition. All supply MINUSTAH with "peacekeeping troops."

**Like any other occupation force, the UN troops harass, shoot, prostitute, infect and rape as a matter of routine. Moreover, they do so under cover of UN immunity.**

For example, in 2011, five Uruguayan troops raped a Haitian boy, Johnny Jean and, with their government's complicity, they got away with their crime despite having videotaped it.

Likewise, Argentinian, Brazilian, and Chilean (ABC) troops have faced no criminal charge for their massacres of thousands of Aristide partisans, some of which is immortalized on videotape.

Ecuador has sung praises to Petion even as it embraced Michel Martelly and offered to train his army and paramilitary police.

**Of all the group, Brazil has been the most shameful in securing Haitian reconstruction contracts for its more corrupt industries and trafficking Haitian nationals to work with its worst employers in an arrangement that amounts to slavery.**

**As Latin America contributes to UN occupation forces in Haiti and elsewhere, it is amassing a repressive army away from the prying eyes of its citizens.**

**The size of this army is unprecedented; it can be activated at a moment's notice against its home population, and it is loyal mainly to multinational corporations.**

As this army continues to grow, the so-called Latin-American democracies are becoming nothing more than banana republics with figurehead elected leaders and a powerful military that calls all the shots.

**We, Haitians, have no choice but to continue our revolution and follow Dessalines' admonitions to: "Vow before me to live free and independent, and to prefer death to anything that will try to place you back in chains. Swear, finally, to pursue forever the traitors and enemies of your independence."**

## **MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL**

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

## DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



---

### **Poll: Majority of Americans Favor Quarantining Wolf Blitzer**



October 25, 2014 By Andy Borowitz, The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Amid concerns that the spreading fear of Ebola has become a greater threat than the virus itself, a new poll shows that a majority of Americans favor a quarantine of the CNN anchor Wolf Blitzer.

While poll respondents supported quarantining more than a dozen cable-news personalities, including the entire cast of “Fox & Friends,” a full seventy-two per cent gave the nod to a quarantine of Blitzer.

At the Centers for Disease Control, a spokesman said that a Blitzer quarantine was “very much on the table,” and that the C.D.C. had come up with a workable plan.

“Essentially, we would do a lockdown of ‘The Situation Room’ and provide Wolf with food and water until the crisis passes,” he said.

---

## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

# **Zionist Occupation Forces Destroy Palestinian Water Networks: They “Have Already Confiscated Tractors And Agricultural Equipment”**

18 September 2014 Middle East Monitor

Israeli occupation forces issued on Wednesday a decree banning farmers from irrigating agriculture on their stepped lands in Atov, located in eastern Tubas city in the occupied West Bank, threatening to arrest any citizen who cultivates his or her land.

Palestine’s Safa news agency reported that occupation forces destroyed the water system three days ago that the farmers of the area had connected to their lands, in continuation of a policy that deprives the Atov area of all kinds of infrastructure.

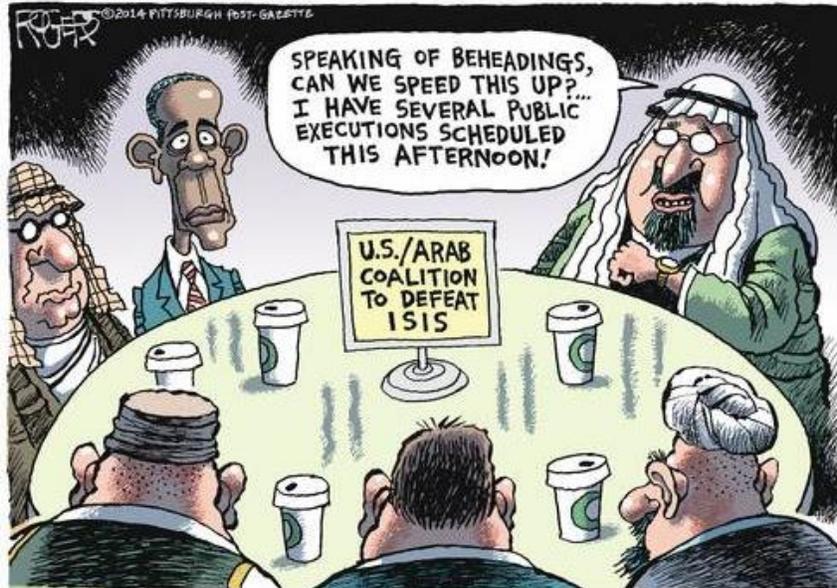
The president of the Atov Council told Safa that, “Arresting and threatening the farmers today is the second step following the destruction of the water network,” pointing out that the goal of the occupation forces is to exercise full control over Atov and Al-Bakya’a.

He added that dozens of people were taken to Tyaseer camp today after their identity cards had been confiscated merely because they were working in the agricultural lands of the region.

He explained that the occupation forces have already confiscated tractors and agricultural equipment belonging to farmers Mustafa Beni Ouda and Jamal Mohammed Qasim Ouda Tammoun and threatened to confiscate other agricultural equipment working in the area.

To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, check out:  
<http://www.palestinechronicle.com/>  
The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

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



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

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

**Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly.**

**Whether at a base in the USA or stationed outside the Continental United States, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the war and economic injustice, inside the armed services and at home.**

**Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657.**

**Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out**  
Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website  
<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

**Issues are also posted at: <http://www.uruknet.info/>**

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

---

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