

Military Resistance 12K2



Half-Finished War Memorial For Iraq And Afghanistan Announced: “The Memorial Will Have A Full-Size Mockup Of A Combat Dining Facility, To Be Built By Kellogg, Brown, And Root, For A No-Bid Contract Of \$4 Billion”

“Cannot Wait To See The Gift Shop. I Need To Stock Up On Those ‘Hero’ And ‘Thank Me For My Service’ T-Shirts”



An artist's rendering of what one part of the memorial would look like

November 2, 2014 by Paul, The Duffle Blog

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A memorial dedicated in honor of halfway-finished wars has been approved for placement in the nation's capital.

The site titled “The Long War Memorial” — featuring troops molded from granite fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan — will be unique in that it will be ambiguous and incomplete, leaving room for additions in future years.

While workers broke ground only recently, the memorial was sanctioned in 2001 as part of the Authorization for Use of Military Force against Al Qaeda “and associated forces.”

The clause has been broadly interpreted as giving the president power to wage war against Al Qaeda terrorists in Afghanistan and Pakistan, dictators in Iraq, offshoots of the original terrorists of Afghanistan living in Yemen, loosely-affiliated terrorists of the original terrorists in Afghanistan living in Somalia, and arch-enemies of the original terrorist group in Afghanistan supported by former military officers of the deposed dictator in Iraq who now live in Syria.

James Ritter, the lead architect on the project, said that his strategy for the memorial is to build, mold, and ultimately display a fitting tribute to our nation's heroes.

In a press briefing, Ritter displayed a scale model which was about 50 percent complete that looked like it could stand on its own, but might fall apart at any moment.

“For more than a decade our generals and politicians have succeeded in shaping the Middle East and creating a safe and stable platform for democracy to flourish,” Ritter said, though he cautioned that maybe that effort could take just a bit more time, a couple hundred thousand troops, many more years of training Arab armies, trillions of taxpayer dollars, and the backing of the American people.

In addition to statues of soldiers and Marines on the front lines, the memorial plans also include imagery from the Global War on Terror.

At its entrance, visitors will be greeted by an interactive hologram of former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, programmed to challenge the premise of all questions asked at the site.

The memorial will also have a full-size mockup of a combat dining facility, which is slated to be built by Kellogg, Brown, and Root, for a no-bid contract of \$4 billion.

The memorial is set to be unveiled in 2018, barring any funding cuts to the project that may arise from planned military campaigns in Jordan, Zambia, and Papua New Guinea.

Some Readers Comments From The Duffle Blog:

Guy Cole:

Cannot wait to see the gift shop. I need to stock up on those "hero" and "thank me for my service" t-shirts.

Dan Widge:

I heard from a guy in my old unit who knows a guy from another unit who went to school with a guy who has a cousin, who worked with a woman who knows a guy who said they were hiring an Iraqi construction company to make sure it never gets done.

They'll give the company \$100,000,000,000 dinar to buy material...then they'll claim it was stolen and ask for more money. This project itself will go on for 15 years or more. Rumsfeld was elected as the guy in charge, so he was quoted as saying "when you build a memorial, you go with what you have."

Josh Noble:

When you finish your visit and try to leave, more of the memorial appears and you have to double back and find a new way out.

Carl Beutler

I laughed so hard that I cried. At least that's what I told everyone who asked why I was crying.

Joseph Diamond:

Might want to examine the spec for the foundation. Using bull shit as a building material has become an industry standard. Additional rhetoric has been added as a temporary support. More study may be indicated.

Also, The various contractors and subcontractors have accumulated a vast array of change orders. Some change orders approve changes to changes that were not funded or completed. These should be edited and back dated to look like part of the original plan. The misleading cost estimated should be rounded up so they can continue to mislead.

Chris Alexander:

Having done the non-KBR DFACs at KAF, I'd say KBR DFACs are a bargain at twice the price.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

November 02, 2014 Gulf Today

KABUL: Nine Afghan security forces personnel were killed in an attack on Saturday south of the capital Kabul, provincial officials said.

“A bomber detonated his explosives-laden vehicle against Afghan police forces in the Azra district of Logar province,” Din Mohammad Darwesh, spokesman for the provincial governor, told AFP. “Six police officers and three soldiers were killed.”

District governor Hamidullah Hamid confirmed the attack.

The Taliban claimed responsibility in an email statement sent to the media.

“A bomber attacked a joint post of Afghan local police forces and army soldiers in Azra district of Logar province,” Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid was quoted as saying.

MILITARY NEWS

**“U.S.-Led Airstrikes Against
Islamic State Struck Grain Storage
Facilities And Other Targets,
Killing Civilians”**

“There Was No ISIS Inside”

**“The Airstrikes ‘Destroyed The Food
That Was Stored There’”**

SEPT. 29, 2014 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & By Thomas Barrabi, IBT Media

U.S.-led airstrikes against Islamic State group positions in northern and eastern Syria struck grain storage facilities and other targets, killing two civilians, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Monday.

The watchdog group believes that pilots may have mistaken the grain silos and mills for ISIS military bases.

Abdurrahman did not provide an exact number of civilian casualties, and the Syrian Observatory's claim were not independently verified.

“They killed only civilians there, workers at the site. There was no ISIS inside,” Rami Abdurrahman, the organization’s director, told the Associated Press, adding that the airstrikes “destroyed the food that was stored there.”

The grain silos are situated in the northern Syrian town of Manbij, in Aleppo province. A separate group, the Aleppo Media Center, confirmed the attack and said the grain facility caught fire, NBC News reports.

In addition, planes bombed a military base and an empty school that were each abandoned by ISIS fighters months ago, a source told the AP.

They "must not have fresh intelligence," the source said.

**Police Depts Militarizing To Kill
Returning Vets:
“Lenthe Was One Of Several Police
Officers And Vendors Who Told The
Guardian That A Serious Threat
Came From Iraq And Afghanistan
Military Veterans Returning Home”
“These Are Sophisticated People, Guys
Coming Back From Combat Who Know
How To Use Their Weapons And Are
Dealing With PTSD”**

[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes “The last full paragraph really sums it up.”]

Sep 09, 2014 by Retroactive GeniusFollow, Daily Kos

The Guardian's Ed Pilkington attended the Urban Shield trade show in Oakland, CA, where manufacturers of weapons, armored-vehicles, body armor etc etc are clamoring to sell this stuff to police departments across America and the world.

"On three sides of the hall, giant black tactical armoured vehicles are stationed, wheels chest-height, sides armour-plated to resist an AK-47 round or blast of a roadside bomb, roofs decked out with spotlights, surveillance cameras and swivel turrets able to house machine guns.

"One of the vehicles, the aptly named Sentinel – 21ft long, 17,500lbs in weight, and costing \$250,000 and up – was developed by a Florida-based company called International Armored Group that began supplying the US army in Iraq and Afghanistan. 'With all that experience in blast resistance, we decided to branch off into tactical vehicles tailored to police departments at home,' said the company's Sally Stefova."

We've come a long, long way from Car 54, Where Are You? and Adam 12.

In fact, the idea of patrol officers doing their jobs in Ford Crown Vics and armed with .38s and nightsticks is almost quaint, like old episodes of Flash Gordon, with rocket-ships trailing smoke and sparks and astronauts wearing jodhpurs.

Pilkington is somewhat taken aback by all this:

"Given the national soul-searching about militarized policing that Ferguson inspired, you might expect to see a muted, self-reflective Urban Shield this year. Not so, judging from the hardware on display on the convention floor."

"As you enter the vast exhibition space you are accosted by assault rifles, gas masks, helmets, tactical knives, robots, drones, night-vision devices and countless other references to the war zone.

"The poster for the Urban Shield event itself shows a police officer from Oakland's local Alameda sheriff's department wearing a helmet and goggles and pointing an assault rifle directly out at the viewer.

"He crouches above a clock that has stopped symbolically at 9:11, alongside the words 'Critical training 4 critical times'".

9/11 symbolism. How very subtle. And appropriate.

After all, it was NYPD officers in armored cars equipped with .50 caliber machine-guns that prevented the attack on the World Trade Center (are you sure about this?-Ed.)

And, of course, this being a gung-ho, SWAT-team jamboree, self-awareness was all-pervasive:

"Even the T-shirts on sale at Urban Shield show no self-awareness of post-Ferguson sensitivities. 'Keep calm and return fire,' one model says.

Another has printed on it the figure of a person with hands in the air – the same symbol of peaceful defiance used by Ferguson protesters – onto which a gun-sight has been superimposed directly over the head, above the rubric: ‘This is my peace sign’”.

Or maybe not.

The whole article is well-worth reading. But what really jumped out at me was the following:

“As Steve Lenthe, a member of a narcotics unit within the local Alameda County sheriff’s office who is participating in the event, sees it, Ferguson-style policing is essential because ‘my job is not to take a bullet. If wearing full body armor gets me home safely, absolutely.’

“Lenthe was one of several police officers and vendors who told the Guardian that a serious threat came from Iraq and Afghanistan military veterans returning home with post-traumatic stress disorder. ‘These are sophisticated people, guys coming back from combat who know how to use their weapons and are dealing with PTSD,’ he said, despite the insistence of the Department of Veterans Affairs that the link between PTSD and violent crime is overblown to the point of distortion.”

There you have it: we have to turn the police into soldiers to deal with returning soldiers.

And to do that, we need to buy the police all the weaponry and kit that the Pentagon commissioned and bought for those soldiers who were trained to use that weaponry and kit by the Pentagon. The insanity comes a full circle.

Johnny might want to think twice before he comes marching home again.

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.

Service Members Who Suffered Chemical Weapons Exposures

**In Iraq “Were Instructed Not To
Disclose Their Exposure”
“Because Of The Secrecy, Injured
Troops Did Not Receive Adequate
Treatment Immediately Following
The Exposure”
“Records Of Wounds Were Expunged
From Some Medical Files”
“The Exposures Were Kept From The
Public And Congress”**

Oct. 31, 2014 By Patricia Kime, Staff writer. Army Times

The Defense Department will provide medical assessments and health surveillance for troops and veterans exposed to chemical agents during the 2003-2011 Iraq War who may not have received proper treatment, senior officials said.

In response to a New York Times investigation published Oct. 14 that included interviews with service members exposed to nerve agents and mustard gas during the war, defense officials said they are reviewing how units handled exposure cases and are tracking down those who may have been injured by discarded or cached Iraqi chemical munitions.

The New York Times report found at least 17 service members who suffered chemical weapons exposures, many of whom said they were instructed not to disclose their exposure.

Because of the secrecy, the injured troops did not receive adequate treatment immediately following the exposure nor were they monitored over time, according to the report.

Several also did not receive Purple Heart awards for their injuries and records of wounds were expunged from some medical files.

The investigation also noted that the exposures were kept from the public and Congress. A full list of events or exposures has never been disclosed.

“I expect we’ll find more (affected troops) just given the numbers. Those weapons were there,” the official said.

Weirdest News Of The Fall, So Far: Seven Leaflets In Arabic Found Near Marine Base Reading “We Are Here From Mexico And Came By Train” Leaflets “May Or May Not Be Associated With The Terrorist Organization Known As The Islamic State”

Oct. 31, 2014 By Jeff Schogol, Staff Writer, Army Times

Officials have launched an investigation into leaflets found near Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., which “may or may not be associated with the terrorist organization known as the Islamic State,” base spokesman Maj. Andrew J. Bormann told Marine Corps Times on Friday.

Quantico is a major Marine Corps installation that includes several important units and commands, such as Training and Education Command, Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Marine Helicopter Squadron 1, better known as HMX-1, which transports President Obama in Marine One and tests experimental aircraft.

The base is also close to the FBI Academy.

A government employee came upon seven leaflets on Wednesday afternoon while running through the town of Quantico, Bormann told Marine Corps Times.

The leaflets have a reversed image of the Islamic State group’s flag and writing in Arabic that is translated as “We are here from Mexico and came by train,” Bormann said in an email.

“Security personnel from the base informed the town of Quantico, the FBI and NCIS,” Bormann said. “While these leaflets may be a hoax, base officials are taking their discovery seriously.”

The FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force is leading an investigation to determine if the leaflets are authentic, he said. The leaflets have not been found at any other Marine Corps installations.

The base has not taken any extra security precautions due to the discovery of the leaflets, but the Marine Corps issued an administrative message on Wednesday night telling Marines to report “even the most minor suspicious activity.”

“Every Marine is our first line of defense and we emphasize to them that if they see something, say something,” Bormann said. “Our Eagle Eyes program is a program to enable just that.”

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

<p>One way to stop the next war is to continue to tell the truth about this one. -- Kathy Kelly</p>
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**FYI: Military Resistance Website Visits:
Top Ten Locations Of Visitors Ranked 1-10
[October 2014]**

- 1 United States
- 2 China
- 3 Germany
- 4 Ukraine
- 5 France
- 6 Romania
- 7 Poland
- 8 Finland
- 9 Russian Federation
- 10 Canada

Readers from an additional 81 have also accessed, including Iraq, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela & Pakistan.

Source: AWStats

CLASS WAR REPORTS

**After Revolution Gets Rid Of
President, Army “Drove Away
Thousands Of Protesters On
Sunday”**

**“The Crowd Had Gathered In The Capital
City Of Ouagadougou Demanding The
Departure Of Lt. Col. Isaac Zida The
Morning After The Army Named Him
Head Of State”**

Nov. 3, 2014 by Drew Hinshaw, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

Soldiers in Burkina Faso drove away thousands of protesters on Sunday as opposition emerged to the military regime that took power two days earlier, when the president of nearly three decades resigned and fled.

The crowd had gathered in the capital city of Ouagadougou demanding the departure of Lt. Col. Isaac Zida the morning after the army named him head of state.

Soldiers arrived in armored vehicles, firing in the air and clearing the city center, according to local private radio station Omega FM.

Gunfire was heard when former lawmaker Saran Sérémé marched to the state broadcaster's office earlier in the day to declare herself the head of a transitional government. Tanks arrived and the broadcaster's signal briefly dropped, Omega FM reported.

Ms. Sérémé is one of several politicians who have come forward to propose themselves as president.

Sunday's events marked the latest twist in a chaotic few days for a nation that had been governed for 27 years by a single man, President Blaise Compaoré.

In its upheaval, the landlocked country on the Sahara's edge has offered a telling scenario for other African countries where aging leaders are pushing into their second or third decade in power.

The average age in Africa is around 19, and yet many of the continent's leaders are in their 70s or 80s; Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe is 90 and has run his country since its independence in 1980. And while Africa's economies are collectively outperforming many other parts of the world, its young people are moving to cities to find few jobs, crowded universities and congested shantytowns.

Still, scattered protests have rarely posed a threat to the continent's entrenched leaders. Opposition figures in countries such as Cameroon or Angola are often as unpopular as those governing the country. Many of them live abroad.

But on Friday, tens of thousands of protesters in Burkina Faso altered that status quo, forcing Mr. Compaoré to resign.

Marchers set fire to the government's most important buildings to stop the 63-year-old leader from amending the constitution to seek a fifth term.

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Russians March Against Government Attack On Health Care Benefits And Services



Participant in the Rally against government attacks on health care. "Stop collapse medicine Moscow!" Suvorov Square. 2 November 2014. Photo by Alexey Semenov



Rally against government attacks on health care. "Stop collapse medicine Moscow!" Suvorov Square. 2 November 2014. Photo by Alexey Semenov

**“1 Million Italians Took To The Streets Of Rome” Against Government Attack On Workers’ Rights:
Marchers Condemn Premier Renzi’s Drive To Make It Easier To Fire Workers:
One Young Person “Held Up A Banner With ‘Thanks For The Solution To Our Problems Renzi,’ And A Picture Of Someone Vomiting”**



Rome turned into a sea of red flags as workers were joined by students, unemployed, retired people to stop the government’s capitalist attack on working class. Photo: 10/26/2014 Revolution News

ROME – Some 1 million Italians took to the streets of Rome on Saturday for a demonstration organized by Italy's largest trade union to protest Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's plans to overhaul the labor market.

People marched in Rome Saturday to protest against Premier Matteo Renzi's drive to make it easier to fire workers.

Two noisy marches crisscrossed the heart of the Italian capital, snarling traffic for hours. Demonstrators cheered as CGIL labor confederation head Susanna Camusso promised more protests and strikes unless Renzi abandons efforts to give employers considerably more leeway to fire workers.

As hundreds of thousands of Italians snaked through the capital calling for Renzi to do more to boost employment and protect the rights of new entries to the job market, organizers put the number of protesters at 1 million and called on the premier to take note.

"We want work for everyone, and work with rights. This is a demonstration for those without work, without rights, those who suffer, who have no certainties for the future," Susanna Camusso, head of the CGIL, told the crowds.

"Renzi said he wanted to see us and count us. Here we are Renzi, count us!" a protester in Rome's San Giovanni's square yelled with a megaphone.

Youth unemployment in the eurozone's third-largest economy stands at a record 44.2 percent and those who do manage to find work are often employed on temporary contracts which offer little in the way of security or benefits.

"We want investments in the future," one young person shouted, while another held up a banner with a sarcastic "thanks for the 'solution' to our problems Renzi," and a picture of someone vomiting.

While Italians are quick to take to the streets to protest, this is the first large demonstration by unions against the Democratic Party, with which they have historic ties.

As the 39-year old was in Florence on Saturday addressing the "Leopolda," an annual meeting he founded in 2009 to bring leaders and the public together to talk about the future of Italy, rebels from the Democratic Party joined the protests in Rome.

Union leaders and workers scoffed at the easier-to-fire makes it easier-to-hire rationale.

"We must have our rights protected 100 per cent," said Katia Cugliato, a 33-year-old marcher.

An official of the FIOM metalworkers union, Federico Bellono, contended the government was deceiving people by saying "taking away some rights ... would automatically make it easier to hire people."



1 million workers took it to the streets to stop the government helping employers increase their profits by firing workers whenever they want. Photo: 10/26/2014 Revolution News

Nationwide, unemployment tops more than 12 per cent. Nearly one of every two youths is unemployed, with many going abroad to find work.

Italy's industrialists' lobby Confindustria is pushing for even more generous tax breaks for businesses.

"Frankly, I don't think that in this moment of grave crisis, demonstrations or strikes are the best solution," Confindustria president Giorgio Squinzi told a Naples gathering of young business owners.

The centre-left premier contends businesses fear hiring workers they cannot dismiss in case business sours, because current legislation makes it very hard to lay off employees. Renzi is confident the measure would help heal Italy's recession-mired economy.

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DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Israel Forces Attack Palestinian Fishermen, As Usual:
They Have “Captured Ten Fishermen And Confiscated Four Fishing Boats, While Firing Live Ammunition In Dozens Of Attacks”
Thieving Occupier Scum Keep “The Boat, The Nets And The Fish”**

“Asked If He And His Cousin Would Return To The Sea, Zayid Replied Proudly, ‘We Have Already Gone’”



Palestinian fishermen unload their catch at the Gaza City seaport on 7 August.
(Mohammed Asad / APA images)

23 September 2014 by Joe Catron, The Electronic Intifada. Joe Catron is a US activist in Gaza, Palestine. He co-edited *The Prisoners' Diaries: Palestinian Voices from the Israeli Gulag*, an anthology of accounts by detainees freed in the 2011 prisoner exchange. Follow him on Twitter: @jncatron.

Nearly a month after Israel's military offensive against the Gaza Strip ended in an indefinite ceasefire on 26 August, Israeli forces continue to shoot at and detain Palestinian fishermen.

The Israeli military has captured ten fishermen and confiscated four fishing boats, while firing live ammunition in dozens of attacks on both the sea and shore of the besieged coastal enclave.

A day before its security cabinet ordered the military operation on 7 July, and two days before its forces started intensely bombarding the Gaza Strip, Israel unilaterally reduced the permitted zone it had imposed on Palestinian fishermen to three nautical miles from the shore.

Its navy had previously allowed them to sail as far as six nautical miles after a ceasefire ended eight days of Israeli attacks on Gaza and retaliatory Palestinian rocket fire in November 2012.

In a statement released to media, the Palestinian agriculture and fisheries ministry called the reduction “a war against thousands of the Palestinian fishermen and their livelihoods.”

During this summer’s offensive, Gaza fishermen endured severe losses. Only during occasional lulls in the violence did a few dare sail, sometimes keeping their boats in the relative safety of the Gaza seaport.

By 10 August, the United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organization estimated that Gaza’s fishing sector had already lost 234.6 tons of fish, or 9.3 percent of its annual catch.

On 28 August, two days after the ceasefire agreement, Israel once again extended its limit to six nautical miles.

Nizar Ayyash, chairperson of Gaza’s General Union of Fishermen, hoped the change would indicate further improvements. At the time, he told reporters the area “will be nine miles by next week and will increase to twelve miles within the next month according to the agreement reached in Egypt on Tuesday.”

Instead, Israel began to reverse the shift as soon as attention from international media and foreign governments dissipated, reducing the zone back to five nautical miles on 8 September.

By then, its navy’s attacks had already resumed in earnest. Regular bursts of machine-gun fire and the occasional thuds of naval artillery punctuated the silence of early mornings along the Gaza coast.

The first capture of fishermen came on 3 September. At 6:00am that morning, Muhammad Ishaq Zayid told The Electronic Intifada last week, he and his cousin Mousa Talal al-Soltan had paddled their fishing boat off the coast of Sudaniya in the northern Gaza Strip.

“A War Against Thousands Of The Palestinian Fishermen And Their Livelihoods.”

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"We were gathering our nets, which we had thrown into the sea the day before," Zayid said at his family's home in the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahia. "This was only one mile away from the shore. Then two Israeli gunboats came and started shooting. They ordered us to take off our clothes and jump into the water."

Despite their craft — a small, motorless boat known as a hasaka — the cousins' first reaction was to flee from the Israelis' sophisticated vessels, Zayid said.

"When they approached, we had already gathered our nets," he recounted. "We started escaping, but the gunboats shot into the water and surrounded us, one from the north, the other from the south. They told us to stop, but we didn't. We kept moving. So they shot into the water again and commanded us to put our hands up. This happened in seconds."

After the Israeli gunfire forced them to undress and plunge into the water, the pair were blindfolded, handcuffed and taken to a larger warship which transported them to the naval port at Ashdod in present-day Israel.

"They kept us in an isolated room," Zayid said. "They took me for interrogation for twenty minutes."

Meanwhile, al-Soltan said, "They interrogated me in the same room where they had been holding us."

After their interrogations, the cousins were taken by the Israeli military to its Erez checkpoint at the northern end of the Gaza Strip.

“We were taken from the port at 3:30pm and arrived at the Erez checkpoint at 4:30,” Zayid said. “We were held there two hours, then came home. At 7:00, we reached our house.”

“They Have Everything: The Boat, The Nets And The Fish.”

Like many fishermen in the Gaza Strip, the cousins share both their profession and their experiences of detention with other members of their family. Zayid’s father has been detained, as has another cousin, who sat in Zayid’s courtyard repairing a net last week.

Fishing families’ losses to Israeli aggression mount over time, far exceeding the potential catches of their days spent in captivity.

Al-Soltan noted, “It was our first time.” He then added, “They have everything: the boat, the nets and the fish.”

Zayid, whose family owned the craft and equipment, estimated the cost of replacing them at \$2,300.

Other detentions have followed those of the cousins, including the captures of four fishermen in two separate incidents on 9 September, and an additional four earlier this week.

The most recent detentions came days after Israeli naval gunfire injured Yousef Zayif, a seventy-year-old fisherman, on 17 September as he waited for his sons on the beach at Sudaniya.

Nearly all attacks have occurred on or near the shore of the northern Gaza Strip, an area that, many fishermen say, Israel aims to render inaccessible to them, regardless of its public statements.

Gunfire continues along the length of the coast, breaking the morning stillness wherever fishermen sail.

By 9 September, the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights had recorded 25 shootings, nearly two per day since fishing resumed after the truce.

But a trade marked by at least five killings, dozens of injuries and countless detentions during an eight-year siege remains a potent symbol of history and resilience for the 3,500 who still ply it.

Asked if he and his cousin would return to the sea, Zayid replied proudly, “We have already gone.”

**Family Held At Gunpoint As
Zionist Occupiers Arrest Another
Palestinian Rights Defender:
“We Stayed In The Living Room With
Six Soldiers Pointing Their Guns At
Us,” His Wife Said”
“There Has Been A Clear Shift In Tactics
By The Israeli Military To Target And
Arrest Human Rights Activists”**



Ayman Nasser (Photo courtesy of Addameer)

09/22/2014 by Charlotte Silver, electronicIntifada.net

Israeli soldiers raided the family home of Ayman Nasser, legal coordinator of the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association, in the middle of the night last Thursday. He is the latest human rights defender in the occupied West Bank to be targeted and detained by the Israeli army.

Nasser's wife told Addameer that a group of soldiers came to their home in Saffa, near Ramallah, at 1:30am on 18 September.

After the soldiers ransacked their home for thirty minutes, Nasser was taken away.

“Fifteen soldiers raided the house and started shouting at me and my children to get out of the rooms, so we stayed in the living room with six soldiers pointing their guns at us,” his wife said in a statement to Addameer.

Nasser, 44, is a longtime human rights activist. In addition to his work with Ramallah-based Addameer, Nasser is the co-founder of the Handala Educational Center in Safa, which focuses on arts, athletics and education.

He has worked with Addameer since 2008.

Nasser was previously arrested in October 2012 and held for 93 days before being sentenced for 13 months; he was released in October 2013.

Before his sentencing, Nasser endured weeks of interrogation while blindfolded and shackled.

Before that he had spent six years, from 1992 to 1997, in an Israeli prison.

Nasser appeared in an Israeli military court on Sunday, 21 September, where the judge did not bring formal charges against him.

Addameer researcher Murad Jadallah told The Electronic Intifada that he expects Nasser will be placed under administrative detention — Israel’s widespread practice of holding Palestinians without charge or trial, justifying detention on the basis of secret evidence.

Under Israel’s military court regime Palestinians can be held without charge or access to a lawyer for up to ninety days, and detention can be extended for another ninety days on request without any limit on the number of times an order can be renewed. However, even when a detainee is charged, the military court process is slow and arbitrary.

Human rights activist Murad Shtaiwi was arrested on 29 April and charged under Israel’s “protest law” for organizing demonstrations in Kufr Qaddum, a village in the northern West Bank whose land has been expropriated for Israeli settlements.

His trial has been repeatedly delayed. If found guilty, Shtaiwi faces a maximum sentence of ten years of imprisonment.

“The practice of arbitrarily prolonging the trial process is not atypical for Palestinians within the Israeli military court system and is incompatible with the fair trial requirement under international human rights law that a defendant should be tried without undue delay,” Addameer stated in a press release on Shtaiwi.

When Ayman Nasser appeared in an Israeli military court two years ago, Nasser stated that his harsh interrogation sessions lasted up to ten hours and that he was denied the necessary medical treatment he had been receiving prior to detention.

The charges brought against Nasser were primarily related to his activism — alleging that he was an activist with the leftist party the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and assisted in the 2012 prisoners' hunger strike.

Addameer condemns the re-arrest of their colleague, placing it in Israel's pattern of targeting Palestinian human rights organizations with an "aim to criminalize their work, silence their voices and prevent them from carrying out their work in supporting all Palestinian political prisoners and detainees."

"Just look at the last three months to see an increase in arresting human rights defenders — whether journalists, PLC (Palestinian Legislative Council) members, writers —we are talking about Palestinian activists in Jerusalem, Hebron, Ramallah and everywhere in the West Bank getting arrested," Jadallah told The Electronic Intifada.

Meanwhile, the number of Palestinian prisoners as a whole has swelled as well. Before three Israeli teens went missing in the West Bank last June, giving Israel a pretext to conduct sweeping arrest raids, more than 175 Palestinians were being held under administrative detention; now it's closer to 500, according to Jadallah.

Last May, Addameer reported that more than 5,200 Palestinian political prisoners were being held in Israeli jails. Arrest and detention is not the only way that Israel violates the rights of Palestinian rights defenders.

Palestinian legislator Khalida Jarrar was issued a military order instructing her to transfer from her home in Ramallah to Jericho, where she would reside under special surveillance for six months.

Such forcible transfers are illegal under international law and Jarrar, who serves on Addameer's board and is a senior member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, is currently resisting the forcible transfer and has set up a protest camp outside the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) in Ramallah.

There are currently 36 PLC members being held in Israeli prisons; 28 are being held under administrative detention.

Addameer defines Nasser, Shtaiwi and Jarrar as human rights defenders, a status enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

Addameer published a report earlier this year examining Israel's systematic arrest of Palestinians organizing against Israel's wall in the West Bank, arguing that since 2009 there has been a clear shift in tactics by the Israeli military to target and arrest human rights activists "in the context of increasing recognition of the legitimacy of the actions by the Palestinian human rights activists."

Another detained human rights defender who has yet to stand trial is Shireen Issawi, a lawyer from East Jerusalem who was arrested on 6 March 2014 and is being held in pre-trial detention on charges related to cooperating with parties working against the State of Israel.

Twenty-one-year-old Bushra al-Taweel, a student and journalist who has worked for multiple human rights projects, was arrested on 2 July this year and held in military detention on the basis of secret evidence. She is still awaiting a date for a court hearing.

The Palestinian Prisoners Society warned last May that Israeli authorities appear to be cracking down on Palestinian lawyers and charging them with relaying information from their clients, alleged Hamas members, to people outside of the prisons. In a spate of arrests, approximately ten Palestinian lawyers, including Issawi, were detained earlier this year.

Al Jazeera English reported that Jawad Boulos of the Palestinian Prisoners Society accused the Israeli authorities of illegally taping and mistranslating conversations between lawyers and their clients in an attempt to “re-draw the map that identifies the interaction between lawyers and detainees.”

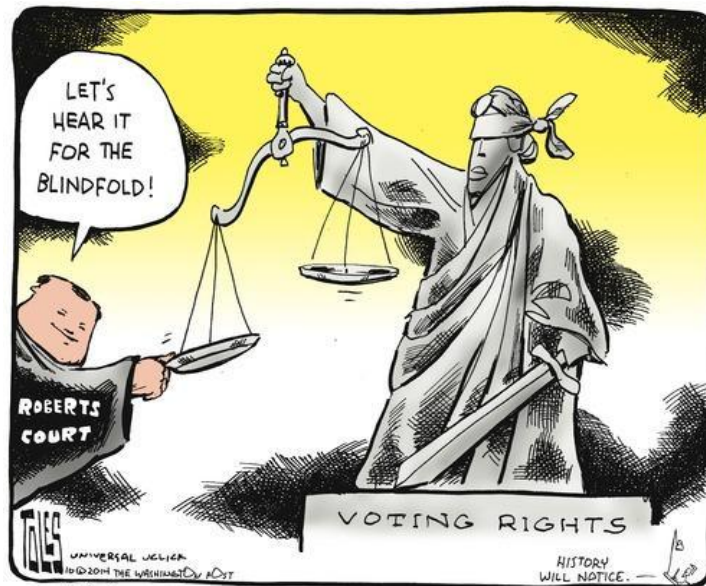
Amjad Safadi, who was detained for twenty days in April, committed suicide five days after his release.

The Palestinian Prisoners Society claims the suicide was a result of being beaten throughout his detention, and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and the Public Committee Against Torture in Israel demanded at the time that an investigation be conducted into the circumstances of Safadi’s death and interrogation.

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





East Ukrainians Support Separatists --- "Now Everyone Is For The DPR"

“For Some, The Vote Was An Act Of Defiance, Revenge For Weeks Of Destruction Most Locals Blamed On Ukraine”
“Ukraine’s Military Campaign To Rout The Rebels Has Angered Many Citizens”
“There’s Nothing Worse Than Going Through The Death Of Your Baby Boy”

Nov. 3, 2014 By Drew Hinshaw, The Wall Street Journal [Excerpts] William Mauldin contributed to this article.

PETRIVSKE, Ukraine—

The village council building is a blown-out shell. The store next door is a metal skeleton. People’s homes are piles of rubble, a reminder of the days when Ukrainian forces and Russia-backed rebels waged war amid this village’s cottages and streets.

Despite the ruin, residents of tiny rebel-held Petrivske in eastern Ukraine crammed into a vacated house on Karl Marx Street on Sunday to vote in a separatist election that Kiev has decried as illegal.

For some, the vote was an act of defiance, revenge for weeks of destruction most locals blamed on Ukraine. For others, it was an exercise in hope, a desire to empower any leader in the region promising restoration and peace.

For a few, it was an attempt to register their small voice in a global East-West conflict that has rendered ordinary locals powerless and upset.

“Everyone is hoping,” Larisa Rudenko, a 47-year-old art teacher, said as she waited to vote in Petrivske, a former Soviet collective farm in the Donetsk region. “That’s why we’re here—to change something.”

Sunday’s vote highlighted the extent to which Kiev had lost control over separatist-held parts of the east, where Ukraine’s military campaign to rout the rebels has angered many citizens.

The art teacher said she had initially harbored skepticism about the rebels and disliked the idea of Petrivske separating from Ukraine.

But she said the conflict changed her opinion, as Ukrainian forces began firing from her village's streets and damaging civilian homes.

She said other villagers changed their minds, too. "Now everyone is for the DPR," she said.

In Marynivka, down the road from Petrivske, 75-year-old Raisa Trostyanskaya lost her only remaining son in what she described as a Ukrainian artillery strike on the village this summer.

She clutched her Ukrainian passport as she exited the polling station. "There's nothing worse than going through the death of your baby boy," she said.



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