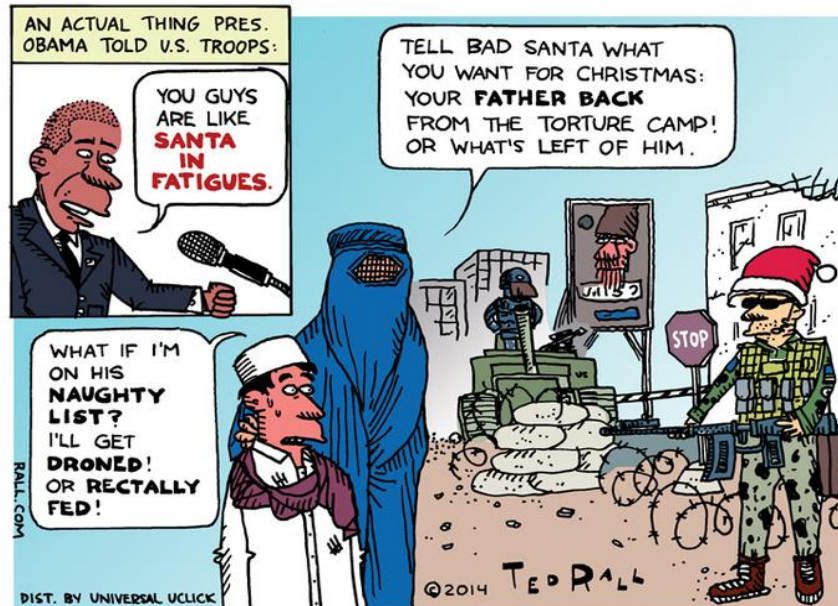


Military Resistance 12L13



“70% Of Active-Duty Troops Said The U.S. Should Not Send A Significant Ground Combat Force Back To Iraq”

“Pessimism About The U.S. Mission In Afghanistan Has Grown Steadily During The Past Several Years”

“We Can Stay There Until The End Of Time And Not Be Successful In Either One Of Those Countries”

“How Likely Is The U.S. To Succeed In Afghanistan? The Number Of Troops Expressing Optimism Has Plunged To 23% This Year, From 76% In 2007”

December 29, 2014 By Andrew Tilghman, Army Times

Pessimism about the U.S. mission in Afghanistan has grown steadily during the past several years and today a majority of the force thinks the war's aims were unfulfilled, according to a Military Times survey.

For the past seven years, Military Times has asked thousands of active-duty service members the same question: “In your opinion, how likely is the U.S. to succeed in Afghanistan?”

The number of troops expressing optimism — responding either “very likely” or “somewhat likely” — has plunged to 23 percent this year, from 76 percent in 2007.

For the troops who deployed there repeatedly, the shifting goals became confusing.

“Initially, our goal was to go find bin Laden, that was the impression that most of us had. We accomplished our mission. But then all the other stuff? How much do we need to be responsible for another nation? If we are somehow responsible, then for how long are we responsible?” [Army Maj. Wayne] Lacy said.

In the Military Times survey, only 28 percent of active-duty troops say the U.S. should maintain troops there beyond 2016.

Many troops' views of Afghanistan and Iraq are intertwined, and pessimism about the latest Iraq mission also is widespread.

Some 70 percent of the active-duty troops surveyed said the U.S. should not send a significant ground combat force back to Iraq to support Baghdad's fight against the group known as the Islamic State.

“We can stay there until the end of time and not be successful in either one of those countries,” said an Army staff sergeant who deployed to both as a helicopter mechanic.

“Change ... comes from within. If the people don't want it, it's not going to happen. They have to want it for themselves,” said the staff sergeant, who asked not to be identified.

MORE:

**“Morale In The Military Is Swiftly Sinking”
“Troops Losing Their Sense Of Mission And Their Faith That Their Superiors, Political Leaders And The Nation Still Have Their Best Interests At Heart”**

December 29, 2014 Army Times, Editorial [Excerpts]

Morale in the military is swiftly sinking, with troops losing their sense of mission and their faith that their superiors, political leaders and the nation still have their best interests at heart.

The percentage who feel the war in Afghanistan ultimately will be viewed as a success has nosedived since 2007.

Similarly, only 30 percent of respondents feel the eight-year Iraq War was a success.

And a full 70 percent emphatically say “no” to sending U.S. ground combat forces back to Iraq to fight extremists.

“The junior folks have a right to say, ‘Hey, you told me to do this U.S.-led counterinsurgency, and it didn’t work.’ They want to know why they were told to do all the dumb stuff they were told to do,” said retired Army Lt. Gen. Daniel Bolger, who led troops in Iraq and Afghanistan — and took a stab at such questions in his recent book, “Why We Lost.”

MORE:

**“Many Service Members Watch With Alarm As The New Mission In Iraq Is Expanding Incrementally”
“We Are So Tired”**

December 29, 2014 By David Larter, Army Times [Excerpts]

Many service members watch with alarm as the new mission in Iraq is expanding incrementally, most recently on Nov. 7 when Obama doubled the number of troops authorized to deploy there to a total of 3,000.

“We are so tired,” said an aviation machinist mate from California. “It’s kind of a punch in the gut. I’m going back to sea duty and it’s really disappointing that we are going back to Iraq and Syria. I foresee a lot of time away from my family.”

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO COMPREHENSIBLE REASON TO BE IN THIS EXTREMELY HIGH RISK LOCATION AT THIS TIME, EXCEPT THAT THE PACK OF TRAITORS THAT RUN THE GOVERNMENT IN D.C. WANT YOU THERE TO COVER THEIR ASS:

That is not a good enough reason.



U.S. soldiers from the 3rd Cavalry Regiment look out the window during sunset as they ride in a helicopter after attending a memorial for Specialist Wyatt Martin and Sergeant First Class Ramon Morris near Bagram Air Field in the Parwan province of Afghanistan December 23, 2014. Specialist Martin and Sergeant First Class Ramon were killed on December 12th by an improvised explosive device while on patrol near Bagram Air Field. (REUTERS/Lucas Jackson)

AND MORE ABOUT THAT:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2FEjGB0ZVU>

“Our anthem in Nam...
“3rd Batt 7th Marines ChuLai,RVN 10/65-11/66”

MILITARY NEWS

Rarity Of Desertion Prosecutions: “Tens Of Thousands Of Soldiers Fleeing The Service In The Face Of Deadly Combat, Long And Multiple Deployments In Iraq And Afghanistan And Strains On Military Families”

12/24/2014 By LOLITA C. BALDOR, AP

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army has prosecuted about 1,900 cases of desertion since 2001, despite tens of thousands of soldiers fleeing the service in the face of deadly combat, long and multiple deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan and strains on military families.

The data reflects how rarely the military takes desertion cases to court.

More than 20,000 soldiers have been dropped from the rolls as deserters since 2006, Army data show. Totals for earlier years weren't available, but likely include thousands more.

In trial cases over the last 13 years, about half the soldiers pleaded guilty to deserting their post. Another 78 were tried and convicted of desertion.

Desertion is relatively easy to prove, former Army lawyer Greg Rinckey said, but circumstances such as post-traumatic stress or family problems are also taken into account. “A lot of deserters suffered from PTSD or other mental health issues, or they were on their second or third deployment,” said Rinckey.

Numbers spiked as soldiers began returning to the battlefield, sometimes for up to 15 month deployments.

Some disappearances involved divorce issues or sick children, he said. In other cases, soldiers deserted bases in the United States. Many of these are handled without

going to court martial, with soldiers administratively punished or sometimes medically discharged.


Soldiers who avoid deployment or leave posts in combat zones are more serious cases, particularly if the deserter is responsible for standing guard or protecting others in dangerous places.

“Those are looked at very harshly,” said Rinckey, now a partner with the Washington law firm Tully Rinckey, “because commanders have a unit of other people who are looking at that soldier and saying, 'I don't want to go either,' so obviously there has to be an example made.”

The maximum punishment for desertion during a time of war is death. That outcome is highly unlikely.

Only one service member, Pvt. Eddie Slovik, was executed for desertion since the Civil War. Slovik, 24, was shot by a firing squad in January 1945. His execution, approved by then-Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, was kept secret by the Army until nine years later.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?



CHANGE WE CAN BEREAVE IN

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.

How Christmas Truce Led To Court Martial: “Generals Took Pains To Stamp Out What They Feared As A Threat To ‘Fighting Spirit’”



A resin sculpture, called "All Together Now", by artist Andrew Edwards, and depicting the Christmas Day football match between German and British soldiers fighting on the front line in World War One in 1914, is seen after being unveiled in the remains of St Luke's Church in Liverpool, northern England in this December 15, 2014 file photo. Credit: Reuters/Phil Noble/Files

Dec 24, 2014 By Alastair Macdonald, Reuters

“All the way down our lines ... Scots and Huns were fraternizing in the most genuine possible manner,” Lieutenant Edward Hulse wrote to his mother after Christmas 1914. “If I had seen it on a cinematograph film I should have sworn that it was faked.”

The centenary of that moment in World War One is now being celebrated as a triumph of shared humanity over the butchery that engulfed Europe, a day when troops along the Flanders front met after four months killing each other to sing carols, exchange gifts and play football in No Man's Land.

Less well known is that some British soldiers would later face punishment for an hour of friendship with their enemy.

Some of those fortunate survivors of 1914 were to pass three more Christmases in the trenches, observing no more broad truces as horrors fostered hatreds, but also because generals took pains to stamp out what they feared as a threat to “fighting spirit”.

In one largely forgotten incident, a repeat of that first famous ceasefire the following year saw one of Hulse's fellow officers in the Scots Guards put on trial at a court martial.

Unlike Hulse, killed at 25 in March 1915, Captain Iain Colquhoun survived the war and recorded how he faced military punishment for again exchanging Christmas cigars with his German foe, and allowing both sides to bury their many dead.

“The Major-General (Lord Cavan) is furious about it,” Colquhoun wrote on Boxing Day 1915. His commander wanted to know why specific orders had been disobeyed that there should be no repeat of the 1914 camaraderie that so shook the general staff.

On Dec. 25, 1915, the 28-year-old Colquhoun had written in his diary: “A German officer came forward and asked me for a truce for Christmas. I replied that this was impossible. He then asked for three quarters of an hour to bury his dead. I agreed.

“Our men and the Germans then talked and exchanged cigars, cigarettes etc for quarter of an hour and when the time was up I blew a whistle and both sides returned to their trenches.

“For the rest of the day ... not a shot was fired. At night, the Germans put up fairy lights ... and their trenches were outlined for miles ... It was a mild looking night with clouds and a full moon and the prettiest sight I have ever seen. Our machineguns played on them and the lights were removed.”

After another 10 days on the front line near Lille, marked in the diary by shelling and sniping but also drinking and gambling with fellow aristocrats of the Guards Division, Colquhoun returned to a billet in the rear to find himself under arrest.

Charged with conduct to the prejudice of good order and of military discipline for “approving of a truce with the enemy”, his five-hour trial on Jan. 17, 1916, heard evidence in person from General Douglas Haig, the British supreme commander.

Found guilty, Colquhoun escaped, however, with a reprimand.

That Prime Minister Herbert Asquith was his wife's uncle and Asquith's son was his defence counsel may have helped. He also felt the army understood the spirit of Christmas, writing:

“Everyone who knows the facts of the case all say that it was a monstrous thing that the court martial ever took place.”

The case did not blight Colquhoun's career. He rose to high rank but remained popular with his troops even after the war, showing concern for the welfare of those who fought beside him like Private Alexander Macdonald -- this writer's grandfather.

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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

**Therefore, in order for the proletariat’s political strike, once transformed into demonstration by the entire people, to become the starting point for a victorious revolution, a sympathetic attitude must be widespread throughout the army.
-- Leon Trotsky, “Up To The Ninth Of January,” 1905**

“An Anthem For Human Liberation”

From demonstrators in Chile singing during demonstrations against the Pinochet dictatorship, Chinese student broadcasting at Tiananmen Square, the fall of the Berlin Wall, Beethoven's “Ode to Joy” has remained an anthem for human liberation:

<http://player.vimeo.com/video/58611141?autoplay=1>

Santa Mistaken For Passenger Jet, Shot Down Over Ukraine



Memorials to Santa have already been erected in Kiev. (Photo credit: tm, Wikimedia Commons)

December 24, 2014 by Dirk Diggle, The Duffel Blog

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukrainian officials have begun sifting through the wreckage of Santa’s sleigh, after it was apparently shot down shortly before midnight local time, sources told Duffel Blog.

The government claims the sleigh was shot down by a Buk surface-to-air missile after being mistaken for a civilian passenger jet, according to a defense ministry spokesman. The sleigh was attacked over Eastern Ukraine, in an area controlled by pro-Russian rebels.

Ukrainian officials accused Russia of orchestrating the shoot-down. Russia denied the claims, citing their own RT news broadcasts as evidence.

According to an RT spokesperson, “Santa was tracked over Russian airspace dispensing Chemtrails, when he strayed into the Ukraine, and was shot down by Ukrainian fighter jets.”

When pressed for further details, the spokesperson pointed to several furiously-edited Wikipedia entries posted within the last five minutes.

Adm. Bill Gortney, who commands North American Aerospace Command (NORAD), expressed his deepest condolences to the people of the North Pole, but added, "We've told Santa numerous times to file his ADIZ flight plans and to check his Mode 4 transponder."

Lt. Gen. J.A.J. Parent, NORAD's Deputy Commander, announced that NORAD quickly initiated a preliminary investigation into the incident.

"Radar, the NORAD Elf, was supposed to load the Mode 4 into Santa's transponder," Parent said, "but he completely dropped the ball.

"Well, thanks for ruining Christmas, Radar!"

ANNIVERSARIES

December 26, 1971: Honorable Anniversary: Vietnam Veterans Against The War Liberate The Statue Of Liberty



Carl Bunin Peace History December 24-30

Two dozen members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War "liberated" the Statue of Liberty with a sit-in to protest resumed U.S. aerial bombings in Vietnam.

They flew an inverted U.S. flag from the crown as a signal of distress. [See above]

CLASS WAR REPORTS

Houston Cop Will Not Face Charges For Shooting Unarmed Black Man: “My Son Was Shot And Killed For Being In A Place That He Had Every Right To Be In”

December 23, 2014 By Vice News & by Gregg Levine, Al Jazeera America & 24
December By Ben Kamisar, The Hill [Excerpts]

Officer Juventino Castro was cleared by a Harris County, Texas grand jury Tuesday for fatally shooting 26-year-old Jordan Baker last January.

Baker, a community college student and father of a then-7-year-old boy, was reportedly riding his bike through the parking lot of a shopping mall in January when he was stopped by Castro.

According to police accounts, Jordan, who was wearing a black, hooded sweatshirt, was spotted looking into store windows.

Castro said the man matched the description of a robbery suspect.

Police initially even told reporters the man shot was the one responsible for the armed robberies.

The Houston officer killed Baker with one shot after the unarmed black man reportedly fled after a scuffle with the cop.

Castro was off duty at the time of the shooting, working as a mall security guard.

MyFoxHouston reported that Baker allegedly fled, then turned and reached for his waistband before he was shot.

[No end to death by waistband: see the next story, below, again. T]

ABC13 reported that Castro told investigators that Baker charged toward him when he fired his gun.

Baker reportedly died in the trash strewn alley behind the strip mall where he was shot. "My son was shot and killed for being in a place that he had every right to be in," his mother, Janet Baker, said.

She's said that Castro profiled her son because he wore a black, hooded sweatshirt.

"I know (Baker's relatives)] are disappointed, but the grand jury's decision means they found that there was no probable cause to believe a crime was committed," Harris County district attorney Devon Anderson said. "It does not constitute an endorsement of the officer's actions."

Harris County has not indicted any Houston Police officers on any criminal charges in any shooting since 2004, according to the Houston Chronicle.

"Harris County grand juries have cleared HPD officers in shootings 288 consecutive times."

This is hardly unique to Houston, however. As has become clear since the shooting of unarmed African-American teen Michael Brown by police officer Darren Wilson in Ferguson, Mo., this summer, the vast majority U.S. police shootings do not result in any legal action against the offending officers.

Chicago, for instance, hasn't indicted an officer in a shooting since 2007. Dallas reviewed 81 shootings involving 175 police officers between 2008 and 2012, and indicted only one.

More than a quarter of the 121 civilians shot by HPD officials between 2008 and 2012 were unarmed, according to analysis by the Chronicle.

MORE:

**There Is A Bizarre Urge Among
Young, Unarmed Black Men To
Provoke Their Own Murder By
'Reaching For Their Waistbands'"
"If Police Accounts Are To Be Believed,
This Compulsion Only Exists Among
Young Black Men"**

November 28-30, 2014 by JOHN ESKOW, CounterPunch

If police accounts are to be believed, there is a bizarre urge among young, unarmed black men to provoke their own murder by “reaching for their waistbands” when cops are aiming service revolvers at them.

Just this week we heard Officer Darren Wilson claim that one of the reasons he killed Michael Brown was that the young man “reached for his waistband,” and – in what I guess was just an incredibly weird coincidence – we heard Cleveland police claim they killed a 12-year-old kid with a toy gun because he also “reached for his waistband.”

But this odd compulsion is not a new one.

In 2011, fully half of all the young black men shot by LA cops were cut down because—again, if police accounts are to be believed – they too were “reaching for their waistbands.”

The epidemic also spread to Houston, where multiple police accounts cite the same excuse.

Oscar Grant, the young man killed by Oakland cops on a subway platform – and the subject of the movie “Fruitvale Station”—was shot for the exact same reason.

If police accounts are to be believed, this compulsion only exists among young black men.

I have been approached by angry or frustrated cops several times in my life – twice as an angry young protestor, eager to defy them – and have never felt even the slightest urge to reach for my waistband.

Maybe white skin contains a protein that protects against this terrible compulsion?

And exactly what is it that these dead young men were hoping to find in those waistbands?

Given the Cosby-condemned fashion of wearing saggy jeans, these kids have to reach pretty far down to reach their waistbands--a posture which would leave them completely defenseless against an armed cop.

What a powerful compulsion this must be!

I’ve spent a good amount of time on police ridearounds in New Orleans. If you want to see young black men, New Orleans at 3 AM is a good place to do so.

I remember one night as my cop hosts were rolling up slowly on a kid they suspected of a robbery: no shirt, Saints cap, saggy jeans exposing his boxer shorts. The kid sauntered on with an exaggerated cool: he knew the cops were watching him, and the cops knew that he knew. One of the cops poked my elbow, chuckled, and said: “Watch this. That kid’s gonna break.” “When?” I asked. “The second he reaches down to hitch up his drawers.” As I watched, another cop counted down: “Three seconds to drawa—hitchin’. Two...one...”

At just that second, the kid reached down, hitched up his drawas, and “broke”—took off sprinting down an alley. They pursued him for a while, then lost interest.

It was the only time I ever saw any gesture that was even vaguely waistband-related, and the kid only did it so that he could run without being tripped by his low-slung Levis.

Two weeks later, one of the cops in that squad car – a funny guy, a seemingly decent guy, you would’ve liked him – was briefly suspended, pending the investigation of an “incident” in which he shot and killed a young black man in the black man’s own back yard.

The kid had reached for his waistband, if police accounts are to be believed.

My old squad-car host was cleared in a few days and returned to duty.

This has gone on far too long.

I am going to take my own mixed-race son to a neurologist today, if not sooner, to have him checked for traces of this horrible Waistband-Reaching Syndrome. I’m concerned that, one day, it could get him killed...

...if police accounts are to be believed.

MORE:

**Milwaukee Police Officer Won't
Face Charges For Shooting
Unarmed Black Man “13 Or 14”
Times:
“Forensic Evidence Pointed To
Manney Assaulting Hamilton, Who
Was Unarmed At The Time Of The
Confrontation”
Autopsy Showed ‘Blunt Force Trauma
Injuries’ To Hamilton’s Head And Face**



Dontre Hamilton. Family photo courtesy of Dameion Perkins, via Associated Press



Killer Cop Manney. Credit Milwaukee Police Department, via Associated Press

12.22,2014 By MONICA DAVEYDEC, New York Times

MILWAUKEE — In a case that echoed growing tension over race and policing in other cities, a former Milwaukee police officer who fatally shot an African-American man this year will not face criminal charges, a prosecutor announced on Monday.

Nearly eight months after the death of Dontre D. Hamilton, Milwaukee County's district attorney concluded that the officer, Christopher Manney, who is white, was defending himself when he shot and killed Mr. Hamilton in April.

Witnesses said Mr. Hamilton had grabbed the officer's baton during an encounter in a downtown park and hit the officer with it or was attempting to, the prosecutor found. Officer Manney fired at least 13, perhaps 14 times.

"This was a tragic incident for the Hamilton family and for the community," John T. Chisholm, the district attorney, wrote in a 25-page presentation, which was accompanied by lengthy appendices, released on Monday morning. "But, based on all the evidence

and analysis presented in this report, I come to the conclusion that Officer Manney's use of force in this incident was justified self-defense and that defense cannot be reasonably overcome to establish a basis to charge Officer Manney with a crime."

In this city, where the case had led to growing protests in recent weeks even before the decision was announced, members of Mr. Hamilton's family said they were deeply disappointed and seeking a federal investigation. The United States attorney's office for Eastern District of Wisconsin said Monday that the Justice Department would review the case.



Dontre Hamilton's mother, Maria Hamilton, center, and brothers Dameion Perkins, left, and Nate Hamilton leading a protest on Monday in Milwaukee. Credit Morry Gash/Associated Press

Law enforcement officials, bracing for more demonstrations after one that blocked an Interstate highway in the Milwaukee area over the weekend, got an executive order from Gov. Scott Walker for the Wisconsin National Guard to stand by, and local leaders called for calm.

"It is my hope that these protests, if they continue — and I anticipate that they will continue — remain peaceful," Tom Barrett, the mayor of Milwaukee, said at a news conference. Mr. Barrett also noted the shooting deaths of two police officers in New York over the weekend, adding: "We cannot allow all police officers in this nation, all police officers in this city, to be demonized. This is the time for peace."

The shooting occurred on the afternoon of April 30 after the police received calls from workers at a coffee kiosk in Red Arrow Park downtown about a man sleeping nearby on the ground.

A pair of officers twice answered the calls, and determined, according to the prosecutor's report, that the man, Mr. Hamilton, was not disturbing anyone.

A short time later, Officer Manney, who had apparently received a voice mail message about the situation, went to the park.

After he approached Mr. Hamilton, asked him to stand and began a “pat-down frisk” of Mr. Hamilton, there was a struggle. The officer said that Mr. Hamilton had lunged and tried to hit him, and that they then struggled over the officer’s wooden baton.

“The use of deadly force against Dontre Hamilton was not a choice P.O. Manney made voluntarily, but was instead a defensive action forced upon him by Dontre Hamilton’s deadly attack with a police baton,” Mr. Chisholm wrote, quoting from Mr. Kapelsohn’s findings.

But the Hamilton family's attorney, Jonathan Safran, says forensic evidence pointed to Manney assaulting Hamilton, who was unarmed at the time of the confrontation.

The autopsy showed “blunt force trauma injuries to his head and face,” Safran told WISN earlier this month.

[So, killer Manney uses his police club to beat on Hamilton for no good reason at all. Hamilton grabs the club. Killer Manney shoots Hamilton “13 or 14” times. Can’t let him live and testify as to what happened. Case closed. Unless, of course, Manney is some kind of twisted freak who beat on Hamilton after shooting him “13 or 14” times. T]

“We wanted there to be more evidence about the 14 shots that were fired,” Safran said.

“Seven of those would appear to be in a downward direction based upon the medical examiner's report. One of the shots being into Dontre's back.”

Officer Manney was fired from the Police Department on Oct. 15 after the Milwaukee police chief, Edward Flynn, announced a review of the April confrontation had been completed. The officer was not fired for firing his weapon, but for what the chief described as an “out-of-policy pat down” of Mr. Hamilton that Chief Flynn said “was not based on individualized reasonable suspicion but on an assumption of his mental state and housing status.”

In an interview, Chief Flynn said a key issue “lost in an attempt to make it fit into the national narrative was that this incident was about handling a person in mental health crisis and either doing it the right way or the wrong way.”

An attorney for the Hamilton family said Mr. Hamilton, who was 31, had a diagnosed mental illness but was not homeless and had regular contact with his family. “As a family we deserve the truth,” Mr. Hamilton’s brother Nate said in an interview.

MORE:

Native American Man Who Attended Anti-Police Brutality Rally Killed By Police Next Day



Allen Locke

12/22/14 by Simon Moya-Smith, Indian Country Today Media Network

A man who participated in an anti-police brutality march and rally in Rapid City, South Dakota, on Friday was shot and killed by police a day later, according to reports.

Rapid City Police identified the victim as Allen Locke, 30, of Rapid City. At about 6 p.m. Saturday, police were dispatched to a subdivision known as Lakota Community Homes to remove a person from a residence there, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Pennington County Sheriff Kevin Thom, who was on site investigating the shooting, told the Rapid City Journal that Officer Anthony Meirose fired his weapon after Locke allegedly charged him with a knife.

Police are saying Locke was shot up to five times by Officer Meirose. Locke was pronounced dead at the scene.

The day before the shooting, Locke's family said he had attended the #NativeLivesMatter Anti-Police Brutality Rally and March in Rapid City.

On Monday, Locke's family released a statement calling on the community for peace.

"We genuinely appreciate the prayer vigils and ceremony circles that are being organized in Allen's memory; this is a crucial time for our family as Allen is making his spirit journey," the statement reads, as posted on Last Real Indians.

"We feel the community's hurt; we know you are angry, we know you are sad and we know everyone is on edge as a result of Allen's violent death coming off the heels of his participation in the #NativeLivesMatter Anti-Police Brutality Rally and March a day before this horrific incident.

"There are many details that we will share in time but we are trying very hard to hold it together and to be strong and peaceful in order to send our loved one off and to give our children an appropriate holiday's memory."

The family is asking for privacy during their time of mourning.

On Monday, the victim's family was scheduled to meet Rapid City Mayor Sam Kooiker and Police Chief Karl Jegeris at 10 a.m. MST.

People were scheduled to gather outside the mayor's office for a prayer gathering.

Both the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation and the Pennington County Sheriff's Office are investigating the shooting, according to the Associated Press.

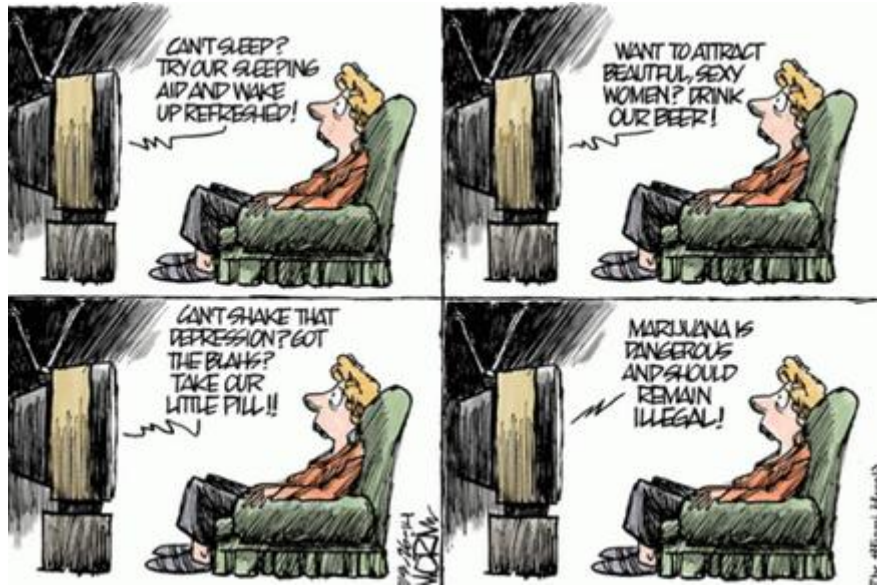
Captain Dan Rud told reporters that tasing Locke was not an option.

Officer Meirose is on administrative leave, according to FOX affiliate KEVN Black Hills.

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DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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