

Military Resistance 12L14



AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

**Resistance In Control Of “One
Of The Largest Universities In
The Country”**

**“The University Officials Are
Unable To Cope”**

**“Taliban Cells Organize Attacks On
Various Government Agencies, NGOs**

And Private Firms In Nangarhar And Other Parts Of The Country” “If The Government Detains One Of Them, Hundreds Of Others Will Close The University And Will Take To The Streets”

Dec 26 2014 By Ahmad Hasib Farhan, Khaama Press [Excerpts]

Nangarhar University is located in the geo-strategically important eastern region of Afghanistan.

The university was founded 50 years ago and is one of the largest universities in the country. Today the university has grown to a size of 13 faculties, with three new faculties established in the last two years. According to the university administration Nangarhar University has close to 14,000 students and more than 400 teaching staff.

Nangarhar University is one of the top universities of the country that has highly qualified teaching staff with about 74 percent of all lecturers holding a master's degree and 4 percent holding a PhD.

I was on an official visit to Nangarhar University last week.

“A large number of students at Nangarhar University work for Taliban and other terrorist groups. Just last year, more than 10 students were killed in the battle with Afghan security forces. Many others are still in jail. The university officials are fully aware of this challenge but are unable to cope with,” said a senior official of Nangarhar University, requesting anonymity.

I further sought to certify the information I received from Nangarhar University official, but regrettably the information I received was confirmed by many students and other officials.

Indeed, hard evidence has emerged that in the past few years, the school has been infiltrated by Taliban cells who exploit the conditions of campus life in order to organize attacks on various government agencies, NGOs and private firms in Nangarhar and other parts of the country.

Looking back to the history of revolutions in Afghanistan, the majority of them started from public universities. The university students remained involved in political movements throughout the history of this country.

Many students are involved neck-deep in terrorist activities and many others support them.

If the government detains one of them, hundreds of others will close the university and will take to the streets against the arrest of a particular student.

Such acts not only troubled the academic environment of the university but also dispirited many donor agencies to assist Nangarhar University.

However, taking action against Taliban students in Nangarhar University is by no means easy.

Ooops: U.S. Air Strike Kills 3 Afghan Villagers “Not Part Of The Taliban Insurgency”

Dec 26 AP

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) -- An airstrike by U.S. forces on Friday killed three Afghan villagers who were "heavily armed" but not part of the Taliban insurgency, an Afghan official said.

The governor of eastern Logar province, Neyaz Mohammad Amiri, said that the U.S. had told local authorities that the dead were Taliban insurgents, but that villagers in the remote Ab Josh area disputed that claim, saying the dead were civilians who were protecting their land from nomads.

He said that Afghan security forces had been deployed to Ab Josh two days ago to mediate a clash between the villagers and Kuchi nomads, who have a reputation for violence and are often armed with machine guns and heavier weapons.

Security in Logar has deteriorated in recent months as the insurgents have spread their footprint across the country and taken control of some remote regions. But the war has also provided cover for local feuds, violent property disputes and organized crime.

Resistance Action

Dec 27, 2014 Press TV

At least four Afghan intelligence officials have been killed when their car was struck by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan's troubled southern province of Kandahar.

Samim Khpolwak, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said on Saturday that the incident took place at around 5:30 p.m. local time (1300 GMT) on Friday in Ibrahim Khalifa Baba area of Dand district, when a remote-control bomb went off as a vehicle of the National Directorate of Security was passing by.

A fifth intelligence official was wounded.

MILITARY NEWS

Armed Forces Child Killers Get A Pass: “71 Percent Of Criminal Probes Of Child Fatalities Were Flawed” “Investigators Did Not Follow All Required Procedures, According To A New IG Report”

December 23, 2014 By Andrew Tilghman, Staff Writer; Army Times [Excerpts]

In a review of how the military investigates child deaths, the Pentagon's Inspector General found that 71 percent of criminal probes of child fatalities were flawed because investigators did not follow all required procedures, according to a new IG report.

The IG conducted a detailed review of the 82 child deaths — including eight homicides — that occurred over two years to evaluate the quality of investigations conducted, according to the report released Dec. 22.

Specifically, the IG reviewed the performance of the three military criminal investigations divisions, which include the Army's Criminal Investigation Command, or CID, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, or NCIS, and the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations, or OSI.

Child death investigations often involve looking for signs of neglect or abuse that could result in criminal prosecution.

The IG found no problems with 18 cases, or about 22 percent.

In 64 of the child deaths, or 71 percent, the IG found "minor deficiencies." That included, for example, cases where:

Investigators failed to collect or review appropriate medical records

Investigators failed to record fingerprint impressions, mug photographs and DNA evidence

Supervisors failed to conduct the required reviews of the investigations

In the case of six child deaths, the IG identified major problems with the investigation that likely affected the "integrity" or the "outcome" of the investigation.

Those problems included:

Investigators failed to collect key evidence from the death scene, the potential suspects, or the remains of the child victim

Investigators failed to properly examine the potential crime scene, which may have resulted in the loss of crucial evidence

The Army's CID was singled out for an especially large number of flawed cases.

Of the 43 child deaths that CID investigated, four, or less than 10 percent, were found to be without problems. In 35 cases, the deficiencies were considered minor and in four cases the IG said the flaws were significant and likely affected the outcome of the investigation.

Many of the Army CID cases were flawed because they failed to document any headquarters-level quality assurance reviews, which are required under Army policies, according to the IG report.

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**

Obama Ratifies SOFA By Marrying Afghan President’s Daughter



Ahmadzai fields questions about "how awesome it will be" to have Barack Obama as a son-in-law. "So awesome," Ahmadzai said. (Photo credit: US Army)

December 14, 2014 by Semper I, The Duffle Blog

KABUL, Afghanistan — President Obama is set to marry Roxanne, daughter of recently-elected Afghan president Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, fulfilling the final terms of the new Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with the war-torn nation, sources say.

The agreement calls for U.S. troops to continue another year of combat operations against the Taliban, financial support until 2017, and an exchange of brides throughout

the country. The city of Kandahar, originally named for Alexander the Great, will be renamed "Obamahar."

All ISAF members are urged to take wives from the local populace and hold marriage ceremonies by the celebration of the new moon, defense officials said. Each platoon will be issued a dowry for each eligible service member of one goat, a baggy of "Naswar," and a cheap watch. These are to appease the fathers, brothers, and cousins of the so-called "SOFA wives."

In order to assuage the concerns of tribal leaders, Gen. John Campbell, commander of ISAF, ordered all U.S. Marine units to be rushed out of the country prior to the nationwide matrimony. "We don't need swaths of Marines stealing every woman in sight from the entire Helmand Province," Campbell said.

Michelle Obama was reportedly "furious" with the recent addition to the presidential family.

"I put up with that rat dog 'Bo,'" the First Lady privately told staff, "but don't expect me to put up with this!"

Yet the President sees this as "the only way to secure victory in Afghanistan," and his family needs to "suck it up," one top aide told Duffel Blog, on condition of anonymity.

According to Pentagon sources, UCMJ prohibitions against bigamy will be waived for brides taken before the new moon, and service members can apply for additional spouse and housing benefits.

At press time, only 88 ISAF members have been killed or wounded as a result of attempting to barter for a better looking bride.

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.

ANNIVERSARIES

December 28, 1971

“Members Of The Vietnam Veterans Against The War Leaving The Statue Of Liberty, Which They Had Occupied For Two Days”



(Source: Photograph Collection of the American Museum of Immigration, Liberty Island, U.S. Department of the Interior, NPS)

[This comes from the weblog maintained by James Starowicz, Veterans For Peace: imagineaworldof.blogspot.com] [From the history of the Statue Of Liberty, by the National Park Service, www.cr.nps.gov]

Tim MacCormick of New Jersey and fourteen other members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, on the afternoon of December 26, 1971, arrived on Liberty Island by the Circle Line boat along with other tourists.

But, when the last return ship to Manhattan sailed that evening, the veterans were not aboard. Instead, just before closing time, they hid among the exhibit partitions, building materials, and storage closets which were lying about the monument's base while work was being finished on the American Museum of Immigration.

When NPS personnel made their 7:30 evening check-up of the statue, they found that the veterans had seized control of the landmark and barricaded the three ground floor entrances.

The men inside refused to speak to or admit any Park Service people, but on the door they posted a typewritten statement addressed to President Richard M. Nixon:

“Each Vietnam veteran who has barricaded himself within this international symbol of liberty has for many years rationalized his attitude to war. . . . We can no longer tolerate the war in Southeast Asia. . . . Mr. Nixon, you set the date (for leaving Vietnam), we’ll evacuate.”

On December 27, twenty-one National Park police flew to Liberty Island from Washington where they were joined by New York City police and Coast Guardsmen. These security forces stood by while the government attempted to reach a peaceful compromise with the occupiers. They were told that they would be permitted to picket and protest on the island if they would simply vacate the statue, allowing it to reopen to visitors.

The veterans rejected the offer, flew the United States flag upside down from the statue's crown, and waited.

Law enforcement officers also waited. During that day thousands of disappointed tourists were told at the Battery that they could not go out to the statue. Congresswoman Bella Abzug (Democrat-New York) sent a telephone message of support to the demonstrators.

Meanwhile, United States Attorney Whitney North Seymour, Jr., went before District Court Judge Lawrence Pierce to request an injunction directing the veterans to open the doors, leave the statue except during regular visiting hours, and permit Park Service personnel and tourists to enter.

On the morning of December 28 Judge Pierce issued a temporary restraining order, instructing the protestors to leave the statue “forthwith.”

Two hours later, after conferring with their lawyers, the veterans removed the barricades from the entrances and emerged with “clenched fists raised.”

They had cleaned up their debris and caused no significant damage to the property. The monument was reopened to the public, with the first ferry-load of visitors arriving at 2:15 that afternoon.

Tim MacCormick issued a statement to the press explaining why they had picked this particular target:

“The reason we chose the Statue of Liberty is that since we were children, the statue has been analogous in our minds with freedom and an America we love.

“Then we went to fight a war in the name of freedom. We saw that freedom is a selective expression allowed only to those who are white and maintain the status quo.

“Until this symbol again takes on the meaning it was intended to have, we must continue our demonstrations. . . . “

MORE:

A Vietnam Veteran Who Occupied The Statue Of Liberty Remembers; An Iraq Veteran Against The War Understands

December 24, 2006 By Tim Blangger of The Morning Call

Nestled in a corner of a tiny Carbon County hollow, between an unnamed hill and an unnamed stream, Paul Fichter's home sits in quiet, exurban isolation. His lawn, a collection of lush ferns scattered among mature pine trees, is calming, meditative.

But climb the steps of Fichter's simple wooden porch and the mood changes. Next to the door, a three-foot-long Air Force missile pierces the weather-worn trailer's side at combat-ready angle, its fin end exposed.

Granted, Fichter's eccentric outdoor inventory includes a miniature Arc de Triomphe model encased in a backyard terrarium, twin Buddha-like statues, an Allentown fire hydrant and one of the city's discarded Call Box emergency telephones, the last two bought at auction.

But the missile ...

The ordnance helps Fichter disguise damage a falling tree did to his trailer several years ago. The outside of the trailer looks fine, but inside, the damage is more apparent. The roof still leaks.

For those who know Fichter, the missile also recalls the Vietnam War and the effect it had on him. He was one of 15 veterans who occupied the Statue of Liberty for three nights and two days over the Christmas holiday 35 years ago, starting on Christmas Eve.

Fichter looks good for a 61-year-old. He's stopped drinking but still smokes. He ties his long, silver-gray hair in a ponytail. When he thinks, he sometimes strokes his substantial gray beard. The war, that war, for good or bad, plays a big part in who he is.

A star football player at Emmaus High School — he was starting offensive end on the 1962 team that shared a league championship with football powerhouse Northampton that year — he was drafted after he failed to register for classes at Moravian College, which he attended for a year.

After a year in the Army, he decided to volunteer for duty in Vietnam, in part, he says, because he liked the anti-authoritarian air the veterans returning from the war displayed. He wasn't very political or even all that upset about being drafted, he remembers

But the year Fichter spent in Vietnam turned out to be a traumatic experience. When he talks about it today, his voice changes, takes on a once-removed quality. "You just didn't know who the enemy was," he says, haltingly.

Friends of Fichter's from Emmaus also served in Vietnam. But Bill Trotter, his football teammate, thinks the experience especially affected Fichter.

"He was always a very intelligent, very introspective guy. I think he had much more of a difficult time adjusting," says Trotter, now a partner in the Hotel Bethlehem. "He thought about a lot of things and I saw that intensified when he came back. He thought a lot about his experiences and it had a deep impact on him."

The decision to become part of the anti-war movement was a slow process for Fichter.

When he came home, he decided not to marry or have children. "I was in no condition to marry anyone. I knew of the problems, of what happened when guys tried," he says.

"I came to realize that, basically, I came home to a parade, which is to say Emmaus in 1968 was an environment that was still in favor of the war. I received slaps on the back and handshakes and 'Nice job; well done, lad' for what had been the most morally abominable thing I had ever done or ever hoped to do."

One night in the spring of 1971 — he remembers it was a Monday, for some reason — Fichter caught bits of a national news report from Washington, D.C., where an anti-war group, the Vietnam Veterans Against The War, was camping on The Ellipse and returning war medals.

The vets sardonically called their non-violent "assault on Congress," as Fichter puts it, Dewey Canyon III, a reference to Dewey Canyon II, the military code name given to a secret operation in Laos, Vietnam's neighbor, which began earlier that same year.

Fichter was moved by what he saw in the coverage of that event, especially images of Vietnam Vets and Gold Star mothers, women who lost sons in the war, being turned away from the iron gates of the Arlington National Cemetery, where they had wanted to hold a demonstration.

“I came to a rapid conclusion,” he recalls. “If I was going to be involved in any capacity beyond an individual effort, this would be the organization.”

The next day, he arranged for a leave of absence from his construction job and drove to Washington to join the Dewey Canyon vets.

That trip began his involvement with the group, which included attending dozens of gatherings, conventions and protests.

Almost by chance, he came to be among the veterans who occupied the Statue of Liberty.

He first learned of the planned action at a peace encampment at Valley Forge, outside of Philadelphia.

“I was quietly approached and told that if I wanted to take part, I should be at a certain time and place the next day,” Fichter recalls. Once they were there, the group still wasn’t told of its final destination, although Fichter says at least a few of the veterans knew the details.

He believes the secrecy had much to do with a widely held belief among the vets that the government had spies inside the anti-war movement.

“There was a general expectation that we were going to spend some significant time in prison for our actions,” Fichter says. The vets feared the Nixon administration would bring down the full weight of the federal government on them, he says.

The Statue of Liberty occupation coincided with other veteran actions around the country, including a protest in which several veterans chained themselves to the fence near the Betsy Ross house in Philadelphia.

Fichter’s group stopped at a home in northern New Jersey — Fichter isn’t sure exactly where — and the group made sandwiches, which they stuffed into the pockets of their jungle fatigues. Then they drove to Manhattan and boarded the last ferry of the day to Bedloe’s Island.

The 15 men ascended the Statue of Liberty then hid in the arm, which was undergoing repairs, and waited until the staff of the National Park Service left the island.

“We wanted to stay in the statue until the war ended, but we knew that was fairly optimistic,” he says. One of the vets, armed with a roll of dimes, went to the pay phone in the statue’s lobby and began calling media outlets. Within hours, the occupation was national news.

The event itself was actually uneventful. The vets didn’t want to damage the statue, just draw attention to their opposition to the war.

The vets ate sandwiches and drank instant coffee, which they found in the canteen area of the statue.

They held a news conference and discussed the occupation with officials from the National Park Service.

Bill Garvin, one of Fichter's best buddies, took an American flag from the lobby and climbed out onto the statue, hanging the flag upside down — an international symbol of distress. The image made many newspapers the following day.

“We tried to keep a focus,” Fichter says. “We weren’t against the American people or the people who worked for the National Park Service. We showed that we were some human beings who were trying to end the war.”

The vets negotiated with park officials and, after three days, they left as a group, returning on a ferry to Manhattan. They had taken up a collection among themselves and left the money for the coffee they drank. They also left a note apologizing for any inconvenience they might have caused park workers.

No charges were filed.

In the end, says Fichter, there was no “mindless cheering and shouting.” A few other vets met the occupiers as they returned and there was a press conference at a local restaurant. Mostly, the protestors were hungry.

“We hadn’t won. The question was, did we do anything? We had tried. That was our perspective,” says Fichter.

Fichter continued to work with Vietnam Veterans Against the War but eventually came to realize he had to stop.

“I began to burn out,” he says. “I continued with local actions, but the torch was being passed. I was no longer able to function that well. I had encountered too much.”

A few weeks after the occupation, Fichter says, the Allentown office of the FBI called, leaving a message with his mother, Muriel, an English teacher at Emmaus High School. They wanted to interview Fichter — “interview being an interesting euphemism,” he says.

They didn’t ask about the statue occupation, Fichter says, but wanted to know about his involvement in the veterans’ peace group.

The interview “contributed to the hastening of my psychological decline,” Fichter says.

Vietnam began his descent, but it wasn’t until 40 years after his return that he took steps to arrest it.

Three years ago, at the start of direct U.S. involvement in Iraq, Fichter sought help from the Veterans Administration for the first time.

Fichter says the Iraqi war may have contributed to his mounting emotional problems. He can’t say for sure. Doctors told him to stop following the news because doing so might upset him.

He was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress syndrome and began taking medication. He makes a point of praising his VA doctors and the help he's received.

He is now semi-retired from his landscaping and handyman jobs, collecting disability benefits.

Fichter's delayed reaction to his post-traumatic stress syndrome doesn't surprise veteran Michael Hoffman, also from Emmaus, who experienced a similar, if not quite so delayed, reaction from his Iraqi tour of duty.

"At first I was happy to be back, but slowly, I started having problems," says Hoffman, 26, who now lives outside of Philadelphia. "I started drinking continually and started having nightmares. I realized something was wrong. I was never for the war, but I had the usual soldier's mentality. I had orders. I followed the orders, and then I got to go home."

Reluctantly at first, Hoffman started speaking out against the war, then the 1997 Emmaus High School grad became one of the founding members of Iraqi Veterans Against The War.

Veterans from both Vietnam and the Iraq conflict have made strong connections, Hoffman says. "So many of the Vietnam Vets devoted their lives after Vietnam to making sure it didn't happen again. Now, they're watching my generation fight a war they swore they would never allow. It is literally killing them inside. I'm seeing Vietnam Vets who were clean and sober for years go back to drinking. Iraq is making them relive Vietnam."

Less than four years into the Iraq war, Iraqi veterans are speaking out against it, says Frank Corcoran, a Vietnam veteran who volunteers for Veterans for Peace, a Philadelphia-based group opposed to the Iraq war.

The Iraqi Veterans Against the War held national planning sessions last January in Philadelphia. A series of informational meetings, to get their word out, followed, says Corcoran.

"Most of our members are out of the service and actively speaking out," says Corcoran. "We're a lot of ex-Marines, ex-medics, folks who were deep into" the war.

That Iraqi vets are voicing their opposition to the war doesn't surprise Ted Morgan, a political science professor at Lehigh University, who teaches courses on the Vietnam war.

Opposition to the war among Vietnam vets was a "historically unprecedented movement in the military. It took an enormous breaking through of people's consciousness. Before Vietnam, there was a very strong consensus in the country that the United States could do no wrong overseas." Vietnam Veterans were part of changing public opinion, Morgan says.

"Vets in the (Vietnam) war, whether they were in the VVAW or not, were not viewed as anti-war people but as really important voices in the movement. They had super credibility for what they were saying because they had been there, engaged in combat and had seen it first hand."

In a storage room in his trailer, Fichter keeps a box of booklets and flyers from his days in Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and he has been thinking about looking through it for the first time since he ended his involvement.

“Those were some good times,” he says. “I’d like to work on the differences between the VVAW in big cities and smaller towns. A lot of the vets from the bigger cities were socialists. Guys like me from the smaller towns, we worked at Bethlehem Steel. We didn’t want to end capitalism. We wanted to end the war.”

Fichter is also slowly working his way back. He’s happy in his home — “Hovel, Sweet Hovel,” a sign near his door reads — calmly talking about this being where he wants to settle for the rest of his life. A small stream runs behind the property and a series of landscaping lights flicker off the water at night.

He watches the stream from a window, sitting in a barber’s chair in his living room, between two bookcases. One holds books about Vietnam and a few war mementoes, including a helmet Fichter wore when he served as a military policeman. The other bookcase has a Civil War theme. “I guess I was looking for something, a war that had some meaning,” Fichter says of his interest in the 19th-century war between the states.

A third bookcase, the largest of the three, holds hundreds of dusty folk recordings, mostly on long-playing, 331/3 records. The large television near the chair is dark and silent. Folk music from a satellite radio station floats in the background.

At last, Paul Fichter may have found his peace.

Military Resistance In PDF Format?

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

***Great Moments In U.S. Military
History:
December 29, 1890:
Massacre At Wounded Knee;
“Many Women And Children Standing By
Their Tipis Under A White Flag Of Truce
Were Cut Down By Deadly Shrapnel
From The Hotchkiss Guns”***



A mounted soldier rides among the dead Indians at Wounded Knee

[Via Peace History December 25-31 By Carl Bunin]

English.uiuc.edu

From Momaday, "The American West and the Burden of Belief" in Geoffrey C. Ward, *The West: An Illustrated History*. Copyright © 1996 by The West Book Project, Inc. (Little Brown, 1996).

On December 15, 1890, the great Hunkpapa leader Sitting Bull, who had opposed Custer at the Little Bighorn and who had toured for a time with Buffalo Bill and the Wild West show, was killed on the Standing Rock reservation.

In a dream he had foreseen his death at the hands of his own people.

Just two weeks later, on the morning of December 29, 1890, on Wounded Knee Creek near the Pine Ridge agency, the Seventh Cavalry of the U.S. Army opened fire on an encampment of Big Foot's band of Miniconjou Sioux.

When the shooting ended, Big Foot and most of his people were dead or dying.

It has been estimated that nearly 300 of the original 350 men, women, and children in the camp were slain. Twenty-five soldiers were killed and thirty-nine wounded,

Sitting Bull is reported to have said, "I am the last Indian."

In some sense he was right. During his lifetime the world of the Plains Indians had changed forever.

The old roving life of the buffalo hunters was over. A terrible disintegration and demoralization had set in. If the death of Sitting Bull marked the end of an age, Wounded Knee marked the end of a culture.

“I did not know then how much was ended.

“When I look back now from the high hill of my old age, I can still see the butchered women and children lying heaped and scattered all along the crooked gulch as plain as when I saw them with eyes still young.

“And I can see that something else died there in the bloody mud, and was buried in the blizzard. A people’s dream died there. It was a beautiful dream....” -Black Elk-



Indian Bodies on the ground at Wounded Knee

Paula M. Robertson: From Encyclopedia of North American Indians. Frederick E. Hoxie, Ed. Copyright © 1996 by Houghton Mifflin Company.

Many women and children standing by their tipis under a white flag of truce were cut down by deadly shrapnel from the Hotchkiss guns.

The rest fled under withering fire from all sides.

Pursuing soldiers shot most of them down in flight, some with babes on their backs.

One survivor recalled that she was wounded but was so scared she did not feel it. She lost her husband, her little girl, and a baby boy.

One shot passed through the baby’s body before it broke her elbow, causing her to drop his body. Two more shots ripped through the muscles of her back before she fell.

The warrior Iron Hail, shot four times himself but still able to move, saw the soldiers shooting women and children.

One young woman, crying out for her mother, had been wounded close to her throat, and the bullet had taken some of her braid into the wound.

A gaping hole six inches across opened the belly of a man near him, shot through by an unexploded shell from the guns.

Others told of women, heavy with child, shot down by the soldiers. Bodies of women and children were found scattered for three miles from the camp.



The mass grave at Wounded Knee

On New Year's Day, a pit was dug on the hill that the Hotchkiss guns had been on, and the frozen bodies of 146 men, women, and children were thrown into the pit like cordwood until it was full.

The whites stripped many of the bodies, keeping as souvenirs the Ghost Shirts and other clothing and equipment the people had owned in life, or selling them later in the thriving trade over Ghost Dance relics that ensued.

One member of the burial party remarked that it was “a thing to melt the heart of a man, if it was of stone, to see those little children, with their bodies shot to pieces, thrown naked into the pit.”

Besides the 146 buried that day, others who had been wounded died soon afterward, and relatives removed many of the bodies before the government burial party arrived. Estimates of the number of Lakotas slain vary, but many authorities believe that the figure is around three hundred men, women, and children.

Not many escaped.

December 30, 1936: Class War At GM



Workers sit down at GM



Supporters pass in food to sitdown strikers

Peace History Dec 26 - Jan 1 By Carl Bunin

Members of the United Automobile Workers sat down at a General Motors plant in Flint, Michigan. GM, the world's largest corporation at the time, had refused to recognize or negotiate with the union, despite passage of the National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act) in 1935 which promised unions the right to organize.

The local's membership adopted a tactic developed by French workers. Instead of picketing outside a factory only to be ignored or forcibly cleared away, the sit-down strike enabled workers to halt production and seize the plant "from the inside."

The strike began just days after the end of a successful sit-down at Ford supplier Kelsey-Hayes.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?

Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the email address if you wish and we'll send it regularly with your best wishes. Whether in Afghanistan or at a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to injustices, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

10 Brazilian Citizens Killed At Random In Retaliation After Drug-Dealing Death-Squad- Leading Cop Meets Fatal Street Justice:

**“When ‘Pet’ Was Killed Around On
Nov. 4, Residents Celebrated By
Launching Fireworks”**

**“Pet Was Accused Of Killing Many
Youths, He Led A Death Squad”
New Figures Reveal 2,212 People Killed
By “Law Enforcement” Last Year”**

A convoy of masked men on motorbikes and in two cars later drove through the dusty, crime-ridden neighborhoods of Terra Firme and Guamá, amongst others, randomly killing residents until the early hours.

Nov. 10, 2014 by Dom Phillips, Rio de Janeiro; Time Magazine [Excerpts]

The killing of ten people in a northern Brazilian city last week by a militia allegedly linked to the country's military police has raised fears of a growing problem with police violence in a country where new figures reveal 2,212 people died in confrontations with law enforcement officers last year.

Ten civilians were gunned down last Tuesday in the impoverished suburbs of Belém, a city in the Brazilian Amazon state of Pará, in a bloody night of violence that lasted until the early hours of the morning.

The massacre, apparently carried out by a single gang of masked men, followed the killing of a police officer hours earlier who was accused of being involved in a “militia” – in Brazil, the term for a criminal organization that includes former and/or serving police officers.

“There is a big probability that if there was not active police involvement then there were people who already passed through the police,” said Anna Lins, a lawyer from Pará Society for the Defense of Human Rights.

“It was summary execution.”

Here is one of a coalition of human rights groups, politicians and NGOs calling for a state assembly enquiry into militias in Pará.

“We do not want the police to act alone in this investigation,” said Lins.

Alexandre Ciconello, a Human Rights Advisor at Amnesty International Brazil, said there were strong indications that police were involved. “It was an orchestrated massacre to kill people,” he said.

The night of mayhem began when Antônio Figueiredo, also known as ‘Pet’, was gunned down when he arrived home in the early evening on Nov. 4. He was a corporal in the special task force, ROTAM, of the state’s military police – Brazil’s street, or ‘offensive’ police force, which works alongside its civil police, which is responsible for investigations.

Amnesty said his fellow officers used social networks to call for vengeance.

“Our little brother Pet has just been assassinated,” said a Facebook message posted by Figueiredo’s colleague, Sergeant Rossicley Silva. “Let’s give the response.” He blamed a war between rival gangs.

A convoy of masked men on motorbikes and in two cars later drove through the dusty, crime-ridden neighborhoods of Terra Firme and Guamá, amongst others, randomly killing residents until the early hours.

A spokesman for Belém’s civil police, the department which handles investigations, told TIME that Figueiredo was suspended from duty for health reasons at the time of his death, and was being investigated for two homicides.

Pará has a murder rate of 41.7 per 100,000, according to 2012 figures from the Violence Map produced by the Latin-American Faculty of Social Sciences in Rio. The Los Angeles murder rate that same year was 7.8 per 100,000.

One Terra Firme resident, who asked not be named for security reasons, claimed Figueiredo’s militia was competing for control of the drug trade in the lawless slums where much of the killing took place.

The militia also acted as a death squad, said the resident, hired by local businesses to kill drug gang members. “They are like vigilantes who kill bandits, then they become killers.”

When ‘Pet’ was killed around 7.30pm on Nov. 4, residents celebrated by launching fireworks.

“Pet was accused of killing many youths, he led a death squad,” the resident said. Some locals have since been placed under witness protection.

Eliana Pereira, Pará state ombudswoman for public security and a human rights activist, said that the revenge killings in Belém would be nothing out of the ordinary for police-linked militias.

“This is not the first case. There have been other massacres,” she said, citing the case of former military police officer Rosivan Moraes Almeida, sentenced to 120 years prison in October for killing six teenagers in 2011.

Rio de Janeiro has long battled a problem with militias involving former and serving police officers involved in activities like charging protection money and controlling gas supplies and cable television in poorer areas.

Amnesty International said the massacre was representative of a wider problem with police violence in Brazil. “The Brazilian police is one of the forces that kills most in the world,” said Ciconello, the Amnesty advisor.

According to annual figures to be released Nov. 11 from the Brazilian Forum of Public Security NGO, on and off-duty Brazilian police killed 11,197 people in the five years ending 2013.

By comparison, the Forum said, U.S. police have killed 11,090 people in the past 30 years.

The Terra Firme resident said those who were killed in Belém, which means Bethlehem in Portuguese, included a 20-year-old man who collected the money for local minibus transports and a 16-year-old boy.

“We want the state to investigate and to live in a society with social peace,” the resident said.

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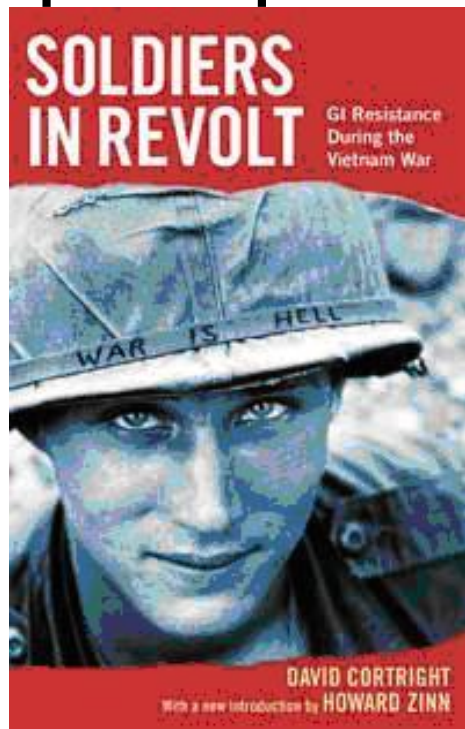
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