

Military Resistance 13A11

**Shameful Anniversary:
Jan. 17, 1893:
A Pack Of Thieving American Sugar
Plantation Owners Use U.S. Marines
To Grab And Plunder Hawaii;
“The Righteous Reformers Were
Determined To Save The Hawaiians From
Self-Government”**



'Iolani Palace, draped in black for 1993's observance of the centennial of the overthrow of the monarchy, was a moving, powerful symbol to Hawaiians who participated in a torchlight ceremony.

Carl Bunin Peace History January 17-23

May 1994 By Pat Pitzer, Spirit Of Aloha Magazine [Excerpts]

Hawai'i entered the decade of the 1890s as a kingdom and emerged from it as a Territory of the United States, with a provisional government and a republic in between.

The storm that had been gathering broke on Jan. 17, 1893, when the Hawaiian monarchy ended in a day of bloodless revolution.

Armed insurrection by a relatively small group of men, most of them American by birth or heritage, succeeded in wresting control of the Islands with the backing of American troops sent ashore from a warship in Honolulu Harbor.

To this "superior force of the United States of America," Queen Lili'uokalani yielded her throne, under protest, in order to avoid bloodshed, trusting that the United States government would right the wrong that had been done to her and the Hawaiian people.

Sugar and a coerced constitution played roles in the drama -- intertwined themes of economics and politics.

Sugar was by far the principal support of the Islands, and profits and prosperity hinged on favorable treaties with the United States, Hawaiian sugar's chief market, creating powerful economic ties.

As the Islands' sugar industry grew, large numbers of contract laborers were imported first from China, then from Japan and other countries, to work on the plantations -- the beginning of Hawai'i's present multicultural population.

Plantation ownership and control of the business community were in the hands of men of American or European blood.

In 1887, during the reign of Lili'uokalani's brother, King Kalakaua, a group of planters and businessmen, seeking to control the kingdom politically as well as economically, formed a secret organization, the Hawaiian League. Membership (probably never over 400, compared to the 40,000 Native Hawaiians in the kingdom) was predominantly American, including several missionary descendants.

Organizer and fire brand of the league was Lorrin A. Thurston, a lawyer and missionary grandson, who would later be a leader in the overthrow of the monarchy, with many of the same men.

Their goal, for now, was to "reform" the monarchy. But reform, like beauty, was in the eye of the beholder. The Native Hawaiians looked up to their sovereigns with respect and aloha. Kalakaua and Lili'uokalani were well-educated, intelligent, skilled in social graces, and equally at home with Hawaiian traditions and court ceremony.

Above all, they were deeply concerned about the well-being of the Hawaiian people and maintaining the independence of the kingdom.

The league's more radical members favored the king's abdication -- one even proposed assassination -- but cooler heads prevailed. They would allow the king to remain on the throne with his power sharply limited by a new constitution of their making.

Dethroning him would be a last resort, if he refused to comply.

Many Hawaiian League members belonged to a volunteer militia, the Honolulu Rifles, which was officially in service to the Hawaiian government, but was secretly the league's military arm.

Kalakaua was compelled to accept a new Cabinet composed of league members, who presented their constitution to him for his signature at 'Iolani Palace.

The reluctant king argued and protested, but finally signed the document, which became known as the Bayonet Constitution.

As one Cabinet member noted, "Little was left to the imagination of the hesitating and unwilling sovereign, as to what he might expect in the event of his refusal to comply with the demands made upon him."

The Bayonet Constitution greatly curtailed the king's power, making him a mere figurehead. It placed the actual executive power in the hands of the Cabinet, whose members could no longer be dismissed by the king, only by the Legislature. Amending this constitution was also the exclusive prerogative of the Legislature.

The Bayonet Constitution's other purpose was to remove the Native Hawaiian majority's dominance at the polls and in the Legislature.

The righteous reformers were determined to save the Hawaiians from self-government.

The privilege of voting was no longer limited to citizens of the kingdom, but was extended to foreign residents -- provided they were American or European.

Asians were excluded -- even those who had become naturalized citizens.

The House of Nobles, formerly appointed by the king, would now be elected, and voters and candidates for it had to meet a high property ownership or income requirement -- which excluded two-thirds of the Native Hawaiian voters.

While they could still vote for the House of Representatives, to do so they had to swear to uphold the despised Bayonet Constitution.

The Hawaiians strenuously opposed the diminution of their voice in governing their own country and resented the reduction of the monarch's powers and the manner in which the Bayonet Constitution had been forced on him. Hawaiians, Chinese and Japanese petitioned the king to revoke the constitution. The self-styled Reform Cabinet responded that only an act of the Legislature could do this - though their new constitution had never been put to a vote.

For the remaining years of the monarchy, efforts to amend or replace the constitution received widespread support. The constitutional controversy proved to be the spark that ignited the overthrow of the monarchy.

In 1889 a young part-Hawaiian named Robert W. Wilcox staged an uprising to overthrow the Bayonet Constitution. He led some 80 men, Hawaiians and Europeans, with arms purchased by the Chinese, in a predawn march to 'Iolani Palace with a new constitution for Kalakaua to sign.

The king was away from the palace, and the Cabinet called out troops who forcibly put down the insurrection.

Tried for conspiracy, Wilcox was found not guilty by a jury of Native Hawaiians, who considered him a folk hero.

A new constitution would have to be another monarch's responsibility. On Jan. 20, 1891, King Kalakaua died of kidney disease at age 54. He lay in state in the throne room of 'Iolani Palace, which during his reign had been the scene of many gala receptions and grand balls.

Like her brother, the new queen was childless. She named as her successor to the throne her niece, Princess Ka'iulani, who was away at school in London.

Lili'uokalani's husband, John Dominis, an American sea captain's son, died just seven months after she became queen.

She would soon face a formidable threat to the monarchy and the independence of the kingdom.

In early 1892 Lorrin Thurston and a group of like-minded men, mostly of American blood, formed an Annexation Club, plotting the overthrow of the queen and annexation to the United States. They kept the organization small and secret - wisely, since they were talking treason.

Thurston went to Washington to promote annexation, and received an encouraging message from President Benjamin Harrison: "You will find an exceedingly sympathetic administration here."

In Honolulu, Hawaiians spoke out strongly for their monarchy and presented numerous petitions to the Legislature to replace the Bayonet Constitution, to no avail.

The queen had also been deluged with petitions for a new constitution, signed by an estimated two-thirds of the kingdom's voters, and she boldly prepared to act on their wishes. In her book, *Hawai'i's Story by Hawai'i's Queen*, she noted, "The right to grant a constitution to the nation has been, since the very first one was granted, a prerogative of the Hawaiian sovereigns."

On Jan. 14, the first of four crucial days in Hawai'i's history, the queen presided at noon over the legislative session's closing ceremonies at the Government Building. She then walked across the street to 'Iolani Palace for a more significant ceremony. She was about to proclaim a new constitution which she had written, restoring power to the throne and rights to the Native Hawaiian people.

The Royal Hawaiian Band played as the queen's invited guests, including diplomats, legislators and Hawaiian petitioners, assembled in the throne room, and a large crowd of Native Hawaiians gathered on the palace lawn.

As the audience waited, the queen argued heatedly with her Cabinet, who refused to sign her new constitution, fearing her enemies would use it as a pretext to challenge her. They finally persuaded her to defer action on it.

The queen addressed the guests in the throne room, and the crowd on the palace grounds, telling them that she was ready to promulgate a new constitution, but yielding to the advice of her ministers, was postponing it to some future day.

Alerted earlier of the queen's intention by two of her Cabinet members, the Annexation Club sprang into action.

A 13-member Committee of Safety was chosen to plan the overthrow of the queen and the establishment of a provisional government. As they plotted revolution, they claimed that the queen, by proposing to alter the constitution, had committed "a revolutionary act."

The American warship USS Boston was in port at Honolulu Harbor.

With an eye toward landing troops, Lorrin Thurston and two others called upon the American minister in Hawai'i, John L. Stevens, an avowed annexationist. Stevens assured them he would not protect the queen, and that he would land troops from the Boston if necessary "to protect American lives and property."

He also said that if the revolutionaries were in possession of government buildings and actually in control of the city, he would recognize their provisional government.

The next day, Jan. 15, Thurston told the queen's Cabinet that the Committee of Safety would challenge her.

In an effort to stave off the mounting crisis, the queen issued a proclamation declaring that she would not seek to alter the constitution except by constitutional means.

Unsuccessfully, she sought Minister Stevens' assurance that he would support her government against armed insurrection. The kingdom's marshal proposed declaring martial law and arresting the Committee of Safety, but the Cabinet feared this would lead to armed conflict, and Lili'uokalani wished to avoid bloodshed.

On Jan. 16, several hundred Native Hawaiians and other royalists gathered peaceably at Palace Square in support of the queen, expressing loyalty to the monarchy, and carefully avoiding saying anything inflammatory.

Simultaneously, at the mass meeting called by the Committee of Safety at the armory, the speeches were incendiary.

Lorrin Thurston vehemently denounced the queen and asked the crowd to empower the committee to act as it deemed necessary. The resolution passed amid cheers. No one

had mentioned overthrowing the monarchy, but the unspoken was apparently understood by all.

The Marines Are Used To Invade Hawaii And Overthrow The Government For A Pack Of Thieving Sugar Growers

The Committee of Safety delivered a letter to Minister Stevens requesting him to land troops from the Boston, stating that “the public safety is menaced and life and property are in peril.”

At 5 that afternoon, 162 fully armed troops from the Boston came ashore.

A few of the marines were posted at the American Consulate and Legation, but the main body of troops marched through downtown Honolulu past ‘Iolani Palace.

They were quartered less than a block from the Government Building and the palace. While the troops were ordered ashore ostensibly “to protect American lives and property,” their placement close to the palace was threatening.

Members of the queen’s Cabinet hastened to Stevens to protest the troops’ presence, but it made no difference.

The Committee of Safety had initially proposed that Thurston head the government, but he said he was considered such a “radical mover” it would be better to choose someone more conservative.

Dole, The Pineapple Man, Becomes President Of Hawaii

They then offered the presidency to Sanford B. Dole, another of the “mission boys,” as Thurston called them.

Dole had declined to take part in the revolution except for drafting documents. Rather than abolishing the monarchy, he favored replacing the queen with a regency holding the throne in trust until Princess Ka’iulani came of age. Still, he accepted the presidency and submitted his resignation as a justice in Hawai’i’s Supreme Court.

On the morning of Jan. 17, Dole gave Stevens a letter from Thurston, asking for his recognition of the provisional government, which they planned to proclaim at 3 that afternoon.

The American minister told Dole, “I think you have a great opportunity.”

They also had luck. Just as Dole and the Committee of Safety were about to set out to take possession of the Government Building, Hawaiian police halted a wagon loaded with arms for the insurgents, and the driver shot a policeman in the shoulder. (This was the only blood shed during the revolution.)

The sound of the shot drew a crowd, including the policemen who had been keeping an eye on the Committee of Safety, and in the confusion, they walked to the Government Building unnoticed.

The building was unguarded and nearly deserted, and few people heard the proclamation that was read from its steps, declaring the end of the monarchy and the establishment of a provisional government as an interim measure until annexation to the United States could be achieved.

The American troops were lined up nearby. Minister Stevens immediately, and prematurely, recognized the provisional government.

On Jan. 17, 1893, at dusk, Queen Lili'uokalani yielded her throne under protest, with these words:

"I, Lili'uokalani, by the grace of God and under the constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Queen, do hereby solemnly protest against any and all acts done against myself and the constitutional government of the Hawaiian Kingdom by certain persons claiming to have established a Provisional Government of and for this Kingdom.

"That I yield to the superior force of the United States of America, whose Minister Plenipotentiary, His Excellency John L. Stevens, has caused United States troops to be landed at Honolulu and declared that he would support the said Provisional Government.

"Now, to avoid any collision of armed forces and perhaps loss of life, I do, under this protest, and impelled by said forces, yield my authority until such time as the Government of the United States shall, upon the facts being presented to it, undo the action of its representative and reinstate me in the authority which I claim as the constitutional sovereign of the Hawaiian Islands."

The queen surrendered Hawai'i's sovereignty not to the revolutionaries but to the "superior force of the United States of America" -- temporarily, she believed -- confident that the American government would restore her to the throne.

After the queen yielded, the marshal surrendered the police station house, and at the barracks, the Queen's Royal Guards stacked their arms.

Having stated her case in writing, Lili'uokalani retired to her private residence, Washington Place, urging the leaders of her people to avoid riot and to await tranquilly the result of her appeal to the United States government.

The U.S. Ambassador Says "Pluck Hawaii"

The provisional government took over the palace and declared martial law.

Later, at its request, Minister Stevens proclaimed Hawai'i a temporary protectorate and raised the American flag over government buildings.

He wrote the State Department urging annexation, saying, "The Hawaiian pear is now fully ripe, and this is the golden hour for the United States to pluck it."

The provisional government had chartered a steamer, and Thurston and four others hastened to Washington with a treaty of annexation in hand. The queen's envoys were refused permission to sail on the same ship, and by the time they reached Washington, President Harrison had already sent the annexation treaty to the Senate.

But Harrison was in his last days in power, and Grover Cleveland, who replaced him, withdrew the treaty.

Lili'uokalani wrote to Cleveland requesting redress, and young Princess Ka'iulani went to Washington to appeal for the monarchy and the Hawaiian nation, impressing the president and all who met her with her beauty and dignity.

President Cleveland sent to Honolulu special commissioner James H. Blount, former chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Blount's job was to investigate the circumstances of the revolution, the role Minister Stevens and American troops played in it, and to determine the feelings of the people of Hawai'i toward the provisional government.

Blount's instructions were secret, but it was known that his word would be "paramount," concerning the United States in the Islands, so he was given the nickname "Paramount Blount."

He ordered the troops back to their ship and the American flag taken down and replaced by the Hawaiian flag.

Accessible to all who wished to talk to him, he cordially and impartially heard a steady stream of people from both sides. Over four months, he assembled a vast amount of information from interviews, letters and documents.

Blount's final report charged that Stevens conspired in the overthrow of the monarchy, which would not have taken place without the landing of U.S. troops.

Blount recommended restoring the queen, saying...The undoubted sentiment of the people is for the queen, against the provisional government and against annexation."

He noted, "There is not an annexationist in the Islands, so far as I have been able to observe, who would be willing to submit the question of annexation to a popular vote."

Based on Blount's findings, President Cleveland decided that, in the name of justice, he would do everything in his power to reinstate the queen, provided she would grant amnesty to those who had overthrown her government. The idealistic Cleveland, in assuming the provisional government would willingly relinquish power to her at his request, misjudged the character and tenacity of her adversaries.

The new American minister in Hawai'i, Albert Willis, expressed to the queen the president's regret that the unauthorized intervention of the United States had caused her to surrender her sovereignty, and his hope that the wrong done to her and her people might be redressed. Willis told her the president's condition for reinstating her on the throne was that she grant full amnesty.

Lili'uokalani replied that according to Hawaiian law, the punishment for treason was death, but that she would be satisfied with banishing them from the kingdom forever. Later, she agreed to accede to the president's wishes.

Willis next went to Sanford Dole and the provisional government, assuring them of the queen's amnesty. Speaking for President Cleveland, Willis acknowledged the wrong committed by the United States in the revolution and requested them to resign power and restore the queen.

The answer, of course, was no. They repudiated the right of the American president to interfere in their domestic affairs and said that if the American forces illegally assisted the revolution, the provisional government was not responsible.

On Dec. 18, 1893, President Cleveland made an eloquent speech to Congress on the Hawaiian situation.

He had harsh words for the landing of American troops at the revolutionaries' request:

"This military demonstration upon the soil of Honolulu was of itself an act of war; unless made either with the consent of the government of Hawai'i or for the bona fide purpose of protecting the imperiled lives and property of citizens of the United States.

"But there is no pretense of any such consent on the part of the government of the queen ... the existing government, instead of requesting the presence of an armed force, protested against it. There is as little basis for the pretense that forces were landed for the security of American life and property. If so, they would have been stationed in the vicinity of such property and so as to protect it, instead of at a distance and so as to command the Hawaiian Government Building and palace. ... When these armed men were landed, the city of Honolulu was in its customary orderly and peaceful condition."

The president continues:

"But for the notorious predilections of the United States minister for annexation, the Committee of Safety, which should have been called the Committee of Annexation, would never have existed.

"But for the landing of the United States forces upon false pretexts respecting the danger to life and property, the committee would never have exposed themselves to the plans and penalties of treason by undertaking the subversion of the queen's government.

"But for the presence of the United States forces in the immediate vicinity and in position to accord all needed protection and support, the committee would not have proclaimed the provisional government from the steps of the Government Building.

"And, finally, but for the lawless occupation of Honolulu under false pretexts by the United States forces, and but for Minister Stevens' recognition of the provisional government when the United States forces were its sole support and constituted its only military strength, the queen and her government would never

have yielded to the provisional government, even for a time and for the sole purpose of submitting her case to the enlightened justice of the United States. ... “

He further stated,

“... if a feeble but friendly state is in danger of being robbed of its independence and its sovereignty by a misuse of the name and power of the United States, the United States cannot fail to vindicate its honor and its sense of justice by an earnest effort to make all possible reparation.”

President Cleveland concluded by placing the matter in the hands of Congress.

The Senate hearings were conducted by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, John Tyler Morgan, an annexationist, whose final report managed to find everyone blameless for the revolution except the queen.

Many in the Senate disagreed, and the House censured Stevens and passed a resolution opposing annexation.

In the end, Congress took no action either to restore the monarchy or to annex Hawai'i.

With their goal of annexation stalled, the leaders of the provisional government decided to form a republic, while waiting for a more opportune political climate.

They drafted a constitution and declared it law by proclamation -- the very act for which they had forced Lili'uokalani from her throne.

The new constitution required voters to swear allegiance to the republic, and thousands of Native Hawaiians refused, out of loyalty to queen and country.

Foreigners who had sided with the revolution were allowed to vote.

Property requirements and other qualifications were so strict that relatively few Hawaiians and no Asians could vote.

On July 4, 1894, Sanford Dole announced the inauguration of the Republic of Hawai'i, and declared himself president.

Unwilling to give up, many Hawaiians and other royalists accumulated arms for a counterrevolution to restore the monarchy.

In the January 1895 uprising, led by Robert Wilcox, the royalists were forced by government troops to retreat into the valleys behind Honolulu, and after 10 days of fighting, most of them, including Wilcox, were captured.

The republic's prize catch was Queen Lili'uokalani.

A search revealed a cache of arms buried in the flower garden of her home. She was arrested Jan. 16, 1895, exactly two years from the date the American troops landed in

support of the revolution. Imprisoned in a corner room on the second story of 'Iolani Palace, she was guarded day and night, allowed only one attendant and no visitors.

Shortly after she was imprisoned, Lili'uokalani was given a document of abdication to sign and was led to believe that, if she refused, several of her followers were to be shot for treason.

She wrote, "For myself, I would have chosen death rather than to have signed it; but it was represented to me that by my signing this paper all the persons who had been arrested, all my people now in trouble by reason of their love and loyalty toward me, would be immediately released ... the stream of blood ready to flow unless it was stayed by my pen."

Wilcox and four others were sentenced to death, after all.

Many other royalists received long prison sentences and heavy fines.

Lili'uokalani noted, "Their sentences were passed the same as though my signature had not been obtained. That they were not executed is due solely to a consideration which has been officially stated: 'Word came from the United States that the execution of captive rebels would militate against annexation.'"

The queen was charged with misprision of treason -- having knowledge of treason and failing to report it--and was tried by a military commission. Her trial was held in the former throne room of the palace, where she had once greeted sovereigns and dignitaries from around the world.

The prosecutors taunted, insulted and tried to humiliate her, but they never succeeded in destroying her dignity.

Found guilty, she was given the maximum sentence of five years imprisonment at hard labor and a \$5,000 fine.

It was not carried out, but she remained a prisoner in the palace.

On New Year's Day 1896, all the royalist prisoners were freed -- except Lili'uokalani.

After eight months of imprisonment in the palace, she was allowed to return to her home, under house arrest. Not until late 1896 was her freedom restored.

She went to Washington, armed with documents signed by many Hawaiians asking President Cleveland to reinstate their queen. The president welcomed her warmly and she expressed her gratitude for his earlier efforts to restore her kingdom's independence.

But it was now too late for him to be of further help.

The Plucking Is Consummated

His successor, William McKinley, sent the annexation treaty to the Senate.

Hawaiians submitted a petition to Congress with 29,000 signatures opposing annexation, and petitions to the Republic of Hawai'i, asking that annexation be put to a public vote. They were never permitted to vote on the issue.

Adding to the pro-annexation argument was the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898, drawing attention to the Islands' strategic position in the Pacific.

Ultimately, the annexationists won, and Grover Cleveland wrote: "I am ashamed of the whole affair."

Sovereignty of Hawai'i was formally transferred to the United States at ceremonies at 'Iolani Palace on Aug. 12, 1898.

Sanford Dole spoke as the newly appointed governor of the Territory of Hawai'i.

The Hawaiian anthem, "Hawai'i Pono 'I" -- with words written by King Kalakaua -- was played at the Hawaiian flag was lowered, and replaced by the American flag and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The Hawaiian people had lost their land, their monarchy and now their independence.

Another loss came the following year, with the death of the beautiful young Princess. Ka'iulani, heir to the Hawaiian throne, at age 23.

Lili'uokalani remained an indomitable spirit, honored and revered by her people as a queen to the end.

She died in 1917, at the age of 79, still waiting for justice.

Last year, for the observance of the centennial of the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, 'Iolani Palace, draped in the black of mourning, was a powerful symbol.

The Hawaiian people are still seeking justice through legal means reparations, a fulfillment of trust commitments, settlement of land claims and the return of lands.

They are, moreover, seeking recognition of Hawaiian sovereignty.

The Native Hawaiians will decide how they choose to structure sovereignty -- as a nation-within-a-nation, complete independence, or some other model. It is no longer a distant dream, but an attainable goal.

**January 18, 2003:
500,000 Marched Against Invading
Iraq**

[Then, As Now, The Imperial Government Didn't Really Give A Shit]



Anti-war protesters march past the U.S. Capitol during the start of an anti-war protest that will culminate by a march to the Washington Naval Yard.

Carl Bunin Peace History January 17-23

In frigid temperatures, 500,000 converged on Washington, D.C. There were also joined by many more elsewhere around the world to oppose the threatened U.S. war on Iraq.

This was the largest U.S. peace demonstration since the Vietnam era.

January 18, 1943: The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising: “They Battled The Nazis On Streets And In The Courtyards, From Sewers And Rooftops, Showing A Will To Resist That Electrified The World” Remember Them Always

Cghs.dadeschools.net & untitled [Excerpts]

The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

On January 18th, 1943, the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto started.

The rebels used guerrilla warfare techniques and improvised weapons against the Nazis.

By that time, the half-million original inhabitants had been depleted to about 60,000 as a result of starvation, disease, cold, and deportation.



These two women, soon to be executed, were members of the Jewish resistance. Dispatches by SS and Police General J. Stroop reported that " ...Jews and Jewesses shot from two pistols at the same time... The Jewesses carried loaded pistols in their clothing with the safety catches off... At the last moment, they would pull hand grenades out... and throw them at the soldiers...."

[Google.com]

The ghetto residents had organized an army, the Jewish Fighting Organization, Żydowska Organizacja Bojowa, mostly unarmed and without equipment. They were joined by thousands of others.

In January 1943, the S.S. entered the ghetto to round up more Jews for shipment to the death camps.

They were met by a volley of bombs and the bullets from a few firearms which had been smuggled into the ghettos. Twenty S.S. soldiers were killed.

Germans troops left the ghetto.

Jews showed that they would fight and the Nazis had to give up their plans for the peaceful, orderly obliteration of the largest Jewish community in Europe.

This was the start of the resistance.

After the initial conflict, the main uprisings began. The amount of men and forces on both sides began to grow.

The JFO's membership grew to 700 fighters organized into 22 divisions.

Machine guns, some hand grenades, and about a hundred rifles and revolvers were smuggled in.

Facing them were almost 3,000 crack German troops with 7,000 reinforcements available. Tanks and heavy artillery surrounded the ghetto.

On April 19th, the Nazis returned. They invaded the ghetto and were heavily armed with machine guns and a tank. The Jews only had their improvised weapons, revolvers, and rifles.

An author describes, "They battled the Nazis on streets and in the courtyards, from sewers and rooftops, showing a will to resist that electrified the world."

General Himmler promised Hitler that the uprising would be quelled in three days, and the ghetto would be destroyed.

It took four weeks.

The ghetto was reduced to rubble following bomber attacks, gas attacks, and burning of every structure by the Nazis.

Fifteen thousand Jews died in the battle, and most of the survivors were shipped to the death camps.

Scores of German soldiers were killed. Some historical accounts report that 300 Germans were killed and 1,000 wounded, although the actual figure is unknown.

The Germans took revenge on the resistors. They killed 56,000 Jews (20,000 were killed in the ghetto itself and the other 36,000 were gassed in the death camps).

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

“Local Officials In The Province Say, Approximately 3000 Irresponsible Gunmen Are In Khanabad District”

“Some Others Involved In Insecurity Of The District”

January 17, 2015 BNA

Kunduz (BNA) At least 12 people were killed and 20 others were wounded following clashes between Taliban militants and irresponsible gunmen in Khanabad district, Kunduz province yesterday.

Sayeed Jahanger Karamat head of security command in Kunduz province told BNA, the clashes took place, while a group of irresponsible gunmen rising against Taliban militants in Ashyantop, Zardkamar and Chartot regions, Khanabad district of Kunduz province, as a result 12 people from both sides were killed and 20 others were injured following the clashes.

Residents of the district claimed that during the clashes several homes looting and families of the regions forced to leave their houses.

Meanwhile, Mohammad Omar Safi governor of Kunduz province says, irresponsible gunmen are under the control of government and it will be time consuming to bring all irresponsible gunmen under the control of government in the province.

Local officials in the province say, approximately 3000 irresponsible gunmen are in Khanabad district.

Some of them cooperate with government and some others involved in insecurity of the district.

Senior Police Officials Killed By An Explosion In Faryab

January 17, 2015 By Khaama Press

Two senior police officials were killed by an explosion in northern Faryab province of Afghanistan late on Thursday afternoon.

According to local government officials, the incident took place around 5:30 pm local time in Almar district.

The district administrative chief, Mohammad Saleh Saleh, said police chief of Almar along with the Criminal Investigation Department (CIED) chief were killed following the blast.

Saleh further added the incident took place when the vehicle of the two senior police officials struck an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

He said another policeman was also injured in the blast who was taken to hospital for treatment.

No group including the Taliban militants has so far claimed responsibility behind the incident.

Faryab is among the relatively volatile provinces in northern Afghanistan where anti-government armed militants are actively operating in a number of its remote districts and often carry out insurgency activities.

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

Insurgents Kill Two Police Officers In North Somalia Attack

16 January 2015 Reuters

Islamist fighters have killed at least two officers at a police post in a northern Somali town, rebels and police said on Thursday, as the militants, driven out of areas further south, make more frequent attacks in the semi-autonomous north.

African Union peacekeepers and the Somali army launched a campaign last year that has forced al Shabaab rebels out of major strongholds in central and southern regions, but they still control many rural areas.

Analysts say the group might have shifted extra fighters to Puntland, a semi-autonomous northern region that was relatively calm till recently, and in the last two weeks, Puntland troops have fought rebels in the area over several days.

"Gunmen attacked us last night with grenades and gunfire. Two policemen died and three others were injured," said Mohamuud Saciid, a Puntland police captain told Reuters, referring to Wednesday's late night assault which he blamed on al Shabaab.

Al Shabaab's military operations spokesman, Abdiasis Abu Musab, confirmed the group was behind the attack in Basasso port town, although he said three officers had been killed.

Residents worry that the attack, coming so soon after the fighting in the Galgala hill region, where Puntland security forces said they killed 20 militants, heralds the start of a new militant offensive in the area.

"It seems al Shabaab is increasing in number these days after the Galgala hills war. Some al Shabaab fighters have come into the towns," Basasso resident Ahmed Nur said. He had heard of other attacks on police posts, he said.

"We also see many forces deployed into the town. We cannot say al Shabaab is as strong as it is in Mogadishu. However, the mood is changing here," he said.

Despite the joint military campaign further south, al Shabaab has continued to strike with often devastating effect using hit-and-run bomb and gun attacks in the capital Mogadishu and in towns.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



“At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation’s ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.

“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”

“The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose.”

Frederick Douglass, 1852

**The development of civilization and of industry in general has ever shown itself so active in the destruction of forests, that everything done by it for their preservation, compared to its destructive effect, appears infinitesimal.
-- Karl Marx; Capital: A Critique Of Political Economy; Volume II; The Process Of The Circulation Of Capital**

[Marine Corps General Smedley D. Butler (Ret'd) Speaks To The Veterans Bonus Army]

“We Are Divided, In America, Into Two Classes”

“On One Side, A Class Of Citizens Who Were Raised To Believe That The Whole Of This Country Was Created For Their Sole Benefit”

“On The Other Side, The Other 99 Per Cent Of Us, The Soldier Class, The Class From Which All Of You Soldiers Came”

[Thanks to Pham Binh, who sent this in.]

We are divided, in America, into two classes: The Tories on one side, a class of citizens who were raised to believe that the whole of this country was created for their sole benefit, and on the other side, the other 99 per cent of us, the soldier class, the class from which all of you soldiers came.

10.19.2011: Re-published at <http://louisproyect.wordpress.com>. Louis Proyct writes: “My heartfelt thanks to the Veterans of Foreign War national office for sending me a copy of the article that appeared in their magazine Foreign Service in 1933.”

December 1933 Foreign Service [Excerpts]

On the Firing Line for the V. F. W.

America's most colorful military figure, Major General Smedley Butler, is “off to war” again!

He is responding to the V. F. W. "call to arms" by going on a speaking tour under the auspices of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

Starting in Cincinnati on December 1st, he will visit ten different cities in as many states prepared to tell the truth about the vicious anti-veteran effects of the Economy Act.

He will tell the public—in his own inimitable way—just what he thinks of those who would make the veteran bear the brunt of the depression.

And he will preach the gospel of the V. F. W. to those overseas veterans who have not yet become members.

I HAVE been asked to give the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States some good advice.

Boys, there is no use giving you any advice.

You always do the right thing anyhow.

This outfit always does.

The V. F. W. isn't a knitting society; it is a real outfit and it always pleases me very much to be invited to meet with you because I just love to go every place soldiers ask me to go.

I have noticed that you are getting a little old, but you are the same lovable class of Americans as ever — dumb though you are. Anybody can put anything over on you but you are lovable just the same.

Usually soldiers don't know what it is all about.

Somebody beats a drum, somebody yells "Patriotism" and the soldiers go out, carry the guns, get shot, and, when there is no war, do all the suffering at home.

Peace times they suffer and in war times they bleed.

When you got ready to go to war to lick the Hun, what did you do?

You first learned how to fight, and a whole lot of brass-hats wrote a lot of instructions on how to shoot, how to march, how to do everything; so that you all marched together, keeping step.

You all spoke the same language. You all had the same objective and when anybody asked you your general orders, you all said the same thing.

Now what happens? There aren't any ten veterans in a hundred who will say the same thing to a man who asks them about a veterans' question. No positive information. My advice to every Post is to go to school.

We are divided, in America, into two classes: The Tories on one side, a class of citizens who were raised to believe that the whole of this country was created for

their sole benefit, and on the other side, the other 99 per cent of us, the soldier class, the class from which all of you soldiers came.

That class hasn't any privileges except to die when the Tories tell them.

Every war that we have ever had was gotten, up by that class.

They do all the beating of the drums. Away the rest of us go.

When we leave, you know what happens. We march down the street with all the Sears-Roebuck soldiers standing on the sidewalk, all the dollar-a-year men with spurs, all the patriots who call themselves patriots, square-legged women in uniforms making Liberty Loan speeches.

They promise you. You go down the street and they ring all the church bells. Promise you the sun, the moon, the stars and the earth, — anything to save them.

Off you go.

Then the looting commences while you are doing the fighting. This last war made over 6,000 millionaires. Today those fellows won't help pay the bill.

All of these things you must be told so that you can present your case.

Remember, we can't win this alone. We have got to have the sympathy of all of our class of people.

Go out and make friends with the farmers; they are a scrapping outfit.

A man who is not for the soldiers is against them. There isn't any middle course.

If he hasn't got the courage to say yes for you, then lick hell out of him.

You can only lick him by every Post and every man going to school on your meeting nights, learning what it is all about with your instructions from your headquarters just as when you went to war. There is no difference between this battle and a sanguinary battle with guns.

Learn what you want, learn to be able to express yourselves. If I were the Commander of a Post, I would have a speaking class so that everybody would learn to get up and shoot off his mouth.

Bring into line all his family, all his friends, because the American people are absolutely fair.

It is only this damned Tory class that doesn't want this thing, doesn't want the veteran class cared for.

Stand by your own kind. That is what your conventions are for, to get together and learn to love each other all over again. Some of you have got falling chests and don't look exactly right but you rub shoulders and it all comes back.

There is a bond among soldiers who have slept in the mud together that nothing can supplant.

A whole lot of things face the veterans continually.

Right now we are all called upon to support the administration.

I know the soldiers; no matter what you tell them they are always going to support any president up to a certain point, but you must remember that you have two duties.

One is to your own flesh and blood, yourself and your family; and the next is your public duty.

Combined is another duty, equally important, and that is the duty to the people, the buddies who served with you, who have been hurt.

Go along, do the right thing.

At the same time, we must not desert the fellows among us who deserve help.

This organization, every other soldier organization, will disappear from the earth if you don't do something for your less fortunate comrades, the fellows who have done all the bleeding.

So just think it over. You have a whole lot to decide.

It will come, don't worry.

This is going to be a tough battle all the way through and you will have to be spanked and spanked and. spanked until you get mad enough to do something.

There is no class of people in the world which has been as abominably treated as the soldiers in the United States, and it is all your own fault because you haven't stood together.

Nobody joins hands, nobody joins together to fight a common battle for the class of people who do the dying.

Let me tell you again. Just get together, learn your lessons, be able to say them in your sleep. Get together, follow your leaders.

When you go down to Washington, you've got to growl and bite.

When you soldiers agree to lay aside your petty jealousies and personal ambitions and fight as you fought in wars, you'll get somewhere. Not until then will you get what you want.

You've got to get mad.

You've got to hate.


You've got to turn on these fellows who call you names such as "treasury raiders."

The only trouble with you veterans is that you still believe in Santa Claus.

It's time you woke up — it's time you realized there's another war on.

It's your war this time. Now get in there and fight.

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.

Boko Haram Struggles To Find Victims People Give A Shit About: "We Might Start Killing White People"



January 17, 2015 by Erik Sullivan, The Duffel Blog

BORNO, Nigeria — According to insider reports obtained by Duffel Blog, leaders for the terrorist group Boko Haram have called an emergency meeting to determine how many more murders, rapes and kidnappings it will take before anyone in the international community will start giving a shit.

“It’s frustrating,” complained Boko Haram Commander Abubakar Shekau. “We work extremely hard, and all we get from the rest of the world is phlegmatic indifference. I mean, what’s a warlord supposed to do?”

During a month in which the group has attacked hard targets in Cameroon, as well as orchestrated the slaughter of up to 2,000 civilians, international media outlets have largely focused on recent terror attacks in Paris.

The carnage wrought by Boko Haram in the Belgium-sized swath of territory it now controls in the northeastern states of oil-rich Nigeria was designed to get attention.

Much to Shekau’s dismay, however, it hasn’t been enough.

“I’m turning this country into a fucking Lars Von Trier film,” Shekau told Duffel Blog via Facebook chat. “I’ve literally stolen hundreds of kids from their parents and sold them into slavery, and all I got was a Twitter hashtag from Michelle Obama.”

Delegates to the strategy meeting struggled to come up with ideas evil enough to generate media attention. Numerous suggestions were scrawled across a white board, to include a moon laser, Ebola zombies, canceling American football, Scientology, a Hitler robot, and Furry convention, only to be crossed out, one after the other, in fits of despondency.

Throughout the meeting, many in attendance appeared distracted by the television across the room showing live footage of leaders from countries like Russia, Jordan and Saudi Arabia marching in defense of a free press.

“Nigeria has elephants,” said Secretary for African Affairs Linda Thomas-Greenfield, when asked for comment. “But I don’t think Broker Ham or whatever it is wants to hurt elephants.”

By the close of their strategy session, Boko Haram leaders reported a general feeling of pessimism at the prospect of getting people’s attention any time soon.

“Between France, ISIS and those crazy-low gas prices, I don’t think your average media consumer has any room left on his plate,” Shekau admitted.

“Je suis Boko Haram, and I am pretty bummed.” Shekau then donned his fedora made of flayed baby skin, filled his pipe with virgin hymens and asked his driver to bring around the Rolls Royce with the old lady crucified on the hood.

“If things keep going this way, he might do something crazy,” Commander Tobala Nukaway confided to Duffel Blog. “We might start killing white people.”

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



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DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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