

Military Resistance 13C12



“200,000 Of 700,000 U.S. Troops Sent To Iraq And Kuwait In January 1991 Were Exposed To Nerve Gas And Other Chemical Agents”

“The Department Of Defense And CIA Launched A Campaign Of Lies And Concocted A Cover-Up That Continues Today”

“They Told Gingrich To Be Quiet About The Men’s Symptoms”

“When Brown And Others Tried To Obtain Their Medical Records To Prove Their Illnesses Were Service-Related, They Learned The Records Had Disappeared”

Comment by Sandy Kelson, Veteran & Military Resistance Organization:

US military service people: Beware of those who believe you are nothing but cannon fodder.

At first they provided you with inferior equipment, they claimed none of the troops used as guinea pigs in the Atomic Bomb radiation fallout tests were harmed, they claimed that Agent Orange was harmless and denied claims for medical care filed by the troops and, as detailed below, they not only provided their then friend Saddam with poison gas but they claimed when US forces blew up the stored gas, when Saddam was no longer their friend, that you were not exposed and not harmed.

Only strong struggles by the involved service people and their allies made the government finally give up their dastardly lies and provide benefits, albeit insufficient in amount.

Loyalty is not a one way concept.

You were loyal. They were not loyal to you.

Think feudalism. Think capitalism. Think oppression.

Think being used for the benefit of the lords, all 1% of them.

But then think the Constitution and Freedom and how to secure them.

Sandy Kelson

3/27/15 By Barbara Koeppel, Newsweek. Barbara Koeppel is an investigative reporter in Washington, D.C. This article first appeared in the Washington Spectator.

During and immediately after the first Gulf War, more than 200,000 of 700,000 U.S. troops sent to Iraq and Kuwait in January 1991 were exposed to nerve gas and other chemical agents.

Though aware of this, the Department of Defense and CIA launched a campaign of lies and concocted a cover-up that continues today.

A quarter of a century later, the troops nearest the explosions are dying of brain cancer at two to three times the rate of those who were farther away. Others have lung cancer or debilitating chronic diseases, and pain.

More complications lie ahead.

According to Dr. Linda Chao, a neurologist at the University of California Medical School in San Francisco, "Because part of their brains, the hippocampus, has shrunk, they're at greater risk for Alzheimer's and other degenerative diseases."

At first, the DOD was adamant: No troops were exposed.

"No information...indicates that chemical or biological weapons were used in the Persian Gulf," wrote Secretary of Defense William Perry and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs John Shalikashvili in a 1994 memo to 20,000 Desert Storm veterans.

Strictly speaking, they were right: No weapons were used. The nerve agent sarin was in the fallout from the U.S. bombing or detonating of Iraq's weapons sites.

Perry and Shalikashvili knew.

As Alan Friedman wrote in *The Spider Web: The Secret History of How the White House Illegally Armed Iraq*, the Reagan and Bush administrations, which backed Iraq in its 1980-1988 war with Iran, approved of U.S. companies selling chemical agents and equipment to Iraq, including "a huge petrochemicals complex called PC2. Western intelligence also knew that PC2 was capable of generating chemical compounds to make mustard and nerve gas."

Donald Riegle, a Democratic U.S. Senator from Michigan, held hearings about the veterans' illnesses in 1993 and 1994. He told me the decision by Reagan and Bush "to secretly help Saddam Hussein build his biological and chemical weapons was a monstrous strategic error that eventually led to the tragedy of Gulf War Syndrome, which killed and disabled so many unprotected American troops."

During January and February 1991, when the U.S. bombed Iraq's weapons plants and storage sites, poisonous plumes floated across the desert to thousands of U.S. troops based on the Saudi border.

Sirens wailed daily, but officers in charge announced that the chemical-detection alarms were faulty.

They were not.

A Czech chemical-weapons detection unit found "trace concentrations of sarin, a nerve-paralyzing substance" drifting into Saudi Arabia. French, British and U.S. intelligence units found similar evidence.

Tracy Elledge, a former combat engineer and one of the veterans I interviewed, said, “Alarms went off all the time.... Our officers told us they were false and to disconnect them.”

However, Elledge and others were breathing poison.

In a 2012 Neuroepidemiology article, Jim Tuite, a Gulf War illness expert, and Dr. Robert Haley, an internist/epidemiologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, wrote that “large numbers of U.S. and Coalition military personnel were exposed to levels of sarin ... high enough to cause irreversible or other serious, long-lasting adverse health effects.”

Elledge was on a team setting C-4 plastic explosives at Khamisiyah, one of Iraq’s largest weapons sites. “We used timed fuses, which gave us 10 minutes to get a half mile away,” he said.

“But even at that distance, the smoke was terrible. And we were sent back in to make sure we got everything. The officers never told us the old rockets were filled with sarin, so we didn’t wear any protective gear.”

Jim Bunker was a lieutenant with the First Infantry Division who had trained as a demolition expert. He told me that “before the DOD blew up the ammunition, it sent papers to the battalion officers and intelligence people with clear markings to help them identify chemical weapons. Then on March 2 or 3, the DOD sent the ordnance disposal team to verify which chemicals were there.

“They Told Gingrich To Be Quiet About The Men’s Symptoms”

“We don’t know what they found, because once the troops started demolishing them and getting sick, the reports disappeared.”

Bunker said that when troops first became ill, his battalion commander, Col. John Gingrich, radioed headquarters to find out what was happening. He was told: “It’s the heat.”

“We knew this wasn’t true,” Bunker said. “It was only 85 degrees, and we’d trained in over 100 degrees—without people getting sick like this.”

The next day, division commander Maj. General Thomas Rhame and Col. Michael Dodson came to their base. “They told Gingrich to be quiet about the men’s symptoms,” Bunker said.

Dodson, now head of the Armed Services YMCA, did not respond to calls.

Rhame, retired and until recently, vice president of the Association of the U.S. Army, told me, “I don’t deny the troops were ill. But I don’t remember that incident and it’s not in my nature to tell a subordinate not to admit something, because it might embarrass us.”

Gingrich told me he remembers the issue about the heat, but not that Rhame and Dodson visited the next day. What does Bunker think?

“There’s no way for people to admit to what really happened to us.”

Ron Brown, a soldier with the 82nd Division, watched the demolitions from a mile away. “Within 15 minutes, I couldn’t breathe and my head was about to split open,” Brown said. “Soldiers were nauseous, dizzy and had diarrhea and muscle spasms. About 30 of us went to the medic, who gave us Motrin and told us to drink water.”

Later that month, Bunker almost died.

As the demolitions continued, his symptoms became more severe. “First, I couldn’t control my muscles,” he said. “But in a couple days, I had convulsions and collapsed. After this, they medevacked me to hospitals in Saudi Arabia and Germany, and then to the U.S.”

Bunker is now designated 100-percent disabled. He explains that this means that “your disability prevents you from your full capable earning power for your educational level.”

“And The DOD, CIA And VA Hid The Truth”

Brown and Bunker, who run the National Gulf War Resource Center, say none of the soldiers knew what was happening.

And the DOD, CIA and VA hid the truth.

For example, on March 23, 1991, the ARCENT NBC (Army Central Command Nuclear, Biological and Chemical) staff sent a secret, now declassified, memo to the XVIII Airborne Corps: “ARCENT has positive confirmation (by urinalysis) of cml (chemical) agent blister casualty in VII corps.

“We are not to bring this up to the press. If press asks, XVIII abn (airborne) Corps has had no cml (chemical) casualties.”

Later in 1991, UNSCOM (the United Nations Special Commission) found nerve gas in the remains of rockets the U.S. blew up in Khamisiyah and told the Pentagon.

In November, although the Joint Chiefs briefed the CIA, other intelligence agencies and the White House, no action was taken.

(Six years later, the DOD declassified the UNSCOM memo, posting it on its Gulfink website. Seven months after that, the CIA had it removed—claiming it revealed too much about methods it used to gather intelligence.)

At Riegle’s hearings, when DOD and CIA witnesses admitted that UNSCOM inspectors had found traces of nerve gas at Khamisiyah, they still insisted they “could not confirm that any U.S. troops were at the site.”

Also, they claimed they had no reports of “any soldier or civilian experiencing symptoms consistent with chemical warfare agent exposure.”

Moreover, they argued that the plumes were too small to pose a great risk.

When UNSCOM went public about the nerve gas, DOD and CIA credibility was becoming compromised. And the Riegle hearings, along with those held by then-Rep. Chris Shays, criticized the VA for its failure to properly care for the veterans.

Thus, in 1997, the DOD wrote to the veterans, admitting that U.S. troops did destroy chemical weapons, that nerve gas was released, and that troops “may have been exposed.”

But it also claimed “exposure levels were too low to activate chemical alarms or cause any symptoms.” If they had questions, veterans were told to “call a hotline.”

The CIA insisted it didn't know about the “possible chemical weapons storage at Khamisiyah ... until early 1996.” Moreover, it stated that “no military units were located under the first-effects portion of the plume” during demolitions on March 10 and 11. Also, that “the troops that performed the demolitions had evacuated the area. We know of *one* that drove *briefly* through the smoke from the explosion. He had no ill health effects” (italics added).

Because the DOD and CIA still claim troops weren't exposed to high-enough doses of sarin to hurt them, the VA has denied full disability status to 80 percent of veterans seeking help.

Why must the DOD, CIA and VA lie?

Patrick Eddington, a CIA analyst from 1994 to 1995 who wrote *Gassed in the Gulf*, resigned when superiors aborted his attempts to reveal the facts.

He explained that, “If you're DOD, you're admitting your policies contributed to the veterans' illnesses. If you're the VA, you're admitting you don't know how to treat the vets. If you're the CIA, you blew another estimate and that's not something you want on your resume.”

Further, the U.S. would have to admit it sold Iraq chemicals in the 1980s during its war with Iran. The same chemicals that sickened U.S. troops.

From the time the DOD initially admitted that troops may have been exposed, it constantly retallied the toll: In 1996, there were from 300 to 400; from 1997 to 2002, there were 5,000, 20,000, 99,000 and finally 101,752—but still, exposure to “very low levels of nerve gas agents.”

When Brown and others tried to obtain their medical records to prove their illnesses were service-related, they learned that the records had disappeared.

In a 2007 letter, Dr. Gary Trogdon, chief of the Public Inquiries Section at the Army's Historical Resources Branch, informed Brown that Army units were told to destroy the “after action” reports, since “there was no space to ship the paper back to the States.”

But, Trogdon said, records were kept at the brigade level. When Brown asked Senator Mark Warner to help, he, too, came up empty-handed.

Bunker insists veterans don't need their records. "If they're diagnosed with fibromyalgia or had chronic diarrhea for the past four or five years, it's considered service-connected. It's presumptive under the law for Gulf War veterans—even if they can't diagnose the cause.

"But the VA still denies veterans claims, because they don't have their medical records."

However, Bunker and Brown are hopeful. Bunker says President Obama's new VA Secretary Robert McDonald recently ordered that studies be conducted to determine if certain illnesses should be reclassified as presumptive.

Brown was able to speak with McDonald—after trying unsuccessfully to reach the previous secretary. Brown noted that "just last month, McDonald wrote me he was extending the date for veterans to file presumptive service-connected disability claims."

Still, when Brown read a 2014 New York Times article about 600 troops exposed to chemical weapons in Iraq from 2003 to 2011, he called the hotline and was told it was only for newly exposed veterans.

When he asked about help for the very sick 200,000 Desert Storm veterans, he was directed to Coleen Baird at Aberdeen Proving Ground, who is studying recent veterans' illnesses.

He asked what she could do for them.

Baird said she would refer his request to another office.

MORE:

Army Apologizes To Troops Hit By Poison Gas Again In Second Iraq War:

**"Troops Often Received Inadequate
Medical Treatment, Gag Orders, And
Found Themselves Ineligible For
Purple Heart Medals"**

“‘They Put A Gag Order On All Of Us — The Security Detail, Us, The Clinic, Everyone,’ Burns Recalled”

[Thanks to Clancy Sigal, who sent this in.]

March 27, 2015 by Andrew Emmett, NationofChange [Excerpts]

After it was reported that more than 600 service members suffered from chemical exposure in Iraq, the undersecretary of the Army issued an apology this week.

The scandal goes deeper with its lack of proper medical treatment for these service members.

In response to a New York Times investigation, the undersecretary of the Army apologized this week for the military’s mishandling of more than 600 service members who reportedly suffered from chemical exposure in Iraq.

After being exposed to potentially lethal amounts of sulfur mustard and sarin gas, US troops often received inadequate medical treatment, gag orders, and found themselves ineligible for Purple Heart medals.

Due to the fact that many of the chemical weapons were American-designed artillery shells manufactured in European countries, the Pentagon neglected to inform the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence of the proliferation of dangerous chemical munitions being uncovered in Iraq.

On May 15, 2004, then-Staff Sgt. James Burns of the 752nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company and Pfc. Michael Yandell were exposed to sarin gas from a 152-millimeter binary sarin shell.

After receiving substandard medical treatment, Sgt. Burns and Pfc. Yandell returned to the field and began suffering long-term symptoms of nerve agent exposure.

Burns’ medical records from late 2004 described memory lapses, reading difficulties, problems with balance, and tingling in his legs.

“They put a gag order on all of us — the security detail, us, the clinic, everyone,” Burns recalled.

“We were briefed to tell family members that we were exposed to ‘industrial chemicals,’ because our case was classified top secret.”

In July 2008, six Marines reported exposure to mustard gas from an artillery shell. On August 16, 2008, five soldiers had been exposed to mustard gas while destroying a weapons cache.

The blisters on their skin were the size of their hands.

In April 2010, seven Iraqi police officers became exposed to a dozen M110 mustard shells found near the Tigris River.

In an article published last year, The New York Times initially reported at least 17 American service members and seven Iraqi police officers had been exposed to chemical weapons in Iraq.

The Pentagon later acknowledged that at least 629 troops have reported chemical agent exposure.

After Iraq invaded Iran on September 22, 1980, Saddam Hussein began purchasing US-designed artillery shells manufactured in European countries and later filled with chemical agents in Iraq.

The United States had been manufacturing M110 artillery shells filled with mustard agent and white phosphorous before selling the designs to Western countries.

According to confidential United Nations (UN) documents, Italy and Spain sold 85,000 empty M110-type shells to Iraq by 1988.

In the summer of 2006, the US Army found over 2,400 nerve-agent rockets at a former Republican Guard compound named Camp Taji.

As the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence reviewed claims concerning Iraq's weapons programs, the Pentagon neglected to inform the Committee since many of the artillery shells discovered had been designed and manufactured in the West.

Repeatedly misdiagnosed, troops suffering from chemical exposure often received mediocre medical treatment and found themselves ineligible to receive Purple Heart medals.

Although the Medical Command requires blood and urine tests for chemically exposed patients for the rest of their lives, many troops suffering long-term symptoms did not receive these tests.

Officers were reportedly encouraged to remain silent about incidents of chemical exposure and threatened with gag orders.

On Wednesday, Undersecretary of the Army Brad Carson apologized for the lack of proper medical treatment received and for the military's refusal to award chemically exposed troops with Purple Heart medals.

After reversing a previous decision, Carson said the Army had recently awarded a Purple Heart to a soldier burned by mustard gas.

"To me, the scandal is that we had protocols in place and the medical community knew what they were, and yet we failed in some cases to implement this across the theater," admitted Carson. "That was a mistake, and I apologize for that. I apologize for past actions and am going to fix it going forward."

**DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE
MILITARY?**



U.S. soldier in Bejjia village Iraq, Feb. 4, 2008. (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

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.

MILITARY NEWS

**Syrian Rebels Capture Strategic
Town Of Idlib:
The Tyrant Assad's "Most Significant
Defeat In Two Years"**

Two Recent Regime Offensives Also “Fizzled In The North And The South Of The Country”

March 28 By Liz Sly, Washington Post. Liz Sly is the Post’s Beirut bureau chief. She has spent more than 15 years covering the Middle East, including the Iraq war.

BEIRUT — Syrian rebels captured the key northern city of Idlib from government forces on Saturday in what amounts to the most significant defeat in two years for the forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad.

The rebel force, led by the al-Qaeda affiliate Jabhat al-Nusra, surged into the city center overnight Saturday and by day’s end had ousted government forces almost entirely.

The loss for the government came amid a number of recent indications that the Assad regime is struggling to maintain the momentum it won on the battlefield last year, including the failure of two recent offensives that fizzled in the north and the south of the country.

The official Syrian news agency SANA indirectly acknowledged the defeat, reporting that government forces were regrouping to the south of the city to confront what it said were thousands of “terrorists” supported by Turkey.

The Turkish government has long offered support to most of the rebel forces crisscrossing its border in pursuit of its four-year-old quest to unseat Assad.

Idlib is the capital of the northern province of Idlib, and it became only the second provincial capital in the country to fall to the rebels since the northeastern city of Raqqa was captured two years ago. Raqqa has since become the capital of the Islamic State’s self-proclaimed caliphate, after the group ejected other rebels.

The capture of Idlib is likely to further empower different extremists in the northwestern part of Syria, where more moderate rebel groups had, until recently, held sway. The Islamic State does not have a presence there, but Jabhat al-Nusra, al-Qaeda’s official affiliate in Syria, played a leading role in the fighting alongside other rebel battalions.

“It was a Nusra-led operation with other groups involved,” said Rami Jarrah, an activist with the opposition Activist News Agency.

Many of the rebel fighters were local residents who escaped to the countryside to join the largely rural uprising against Assad in 2011, and had been shut out from the city ever since.

A video posted on YouTube showed a fighter emotionally reuniting with his family for the first time in years.

Others showed rebels moving through the city's central square, its police headquarters, trampling over portraits of Assad and being greeted by residents pledging support for Nusra.

Jabhat al-Nusra has emerged as the dominant force in rebel-controlled areas of the province after defeating more moderate groups that had received U.S. aid in recent months. Its ascent has further complicated the launch of a program promised by President Obama to train and equip a force of moderate Syrian rebels to confront the Islamic State, which was first announced nine months ago but has not begun.

According to Turkish officials quoted by Reuters, the program, due to begin imminently, has encountered a new and unexplained delay attributed to the geographic "distance" between Turkey and America.

The capture of Idlib came after four days of fighting, following a rebel offensive launched on Tuesday.

The government appeared to have made scant effort to defend the city, offering one of a number of recent indications that the four-year-old war is taking a toll, said Jeff White, a military analyst with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"It's a significant defeat for the regime, and it's going to challenge the regime's strategy," he said, pointing out that, until now, the government had seemed determined to hold onto all of the capitals of the country's 14 provinces to demonstrate that its reach still extends throughout the country.

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.

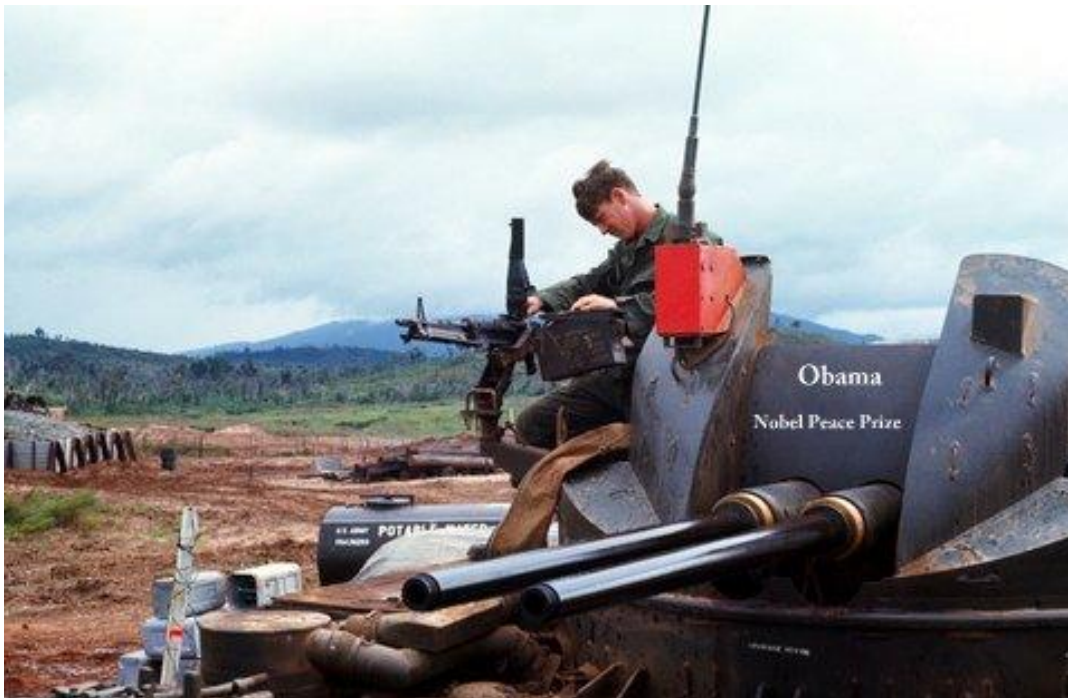
“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“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

Nobel Peace Prize



Photograph by Mike Hastie, Army Medic Vietnam

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: March 27, 2015
Subject: Nobel Peace Prize

Photo and caption from the portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact at: hastiemike@earthlink.net) T)

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004

CLASS WAR REPORTS

**Russian Political Police Attack
Union Meeting And Arrest
Activists:**

**Scumbags Demand Auto Worker
Union Activists “Confess To
Working For Western Secret
Services And Acting To
Destabilize The Situation In
Russia”**

**They “Would Show Up And Put
Pressure On Us, Including Arrests,
Harassment, And Surveillance”
“But Pressure And Persecution Have
Only Strengthened The Organization.**

We Will Vigorously Defend The Interests Of Workers”



Dmitry Kozhnev (left) on the picket line during the 2012 strike at Benteler Automotive.
Photo courtesy of Russian Reporter

Anatoly Artamonov, governor of Kaluga Region, has also called us agents of the West. And this is a guy who has built his region’s economy on cooperation with companies from NATO countries and has awards from NATO countries!

24 March 2015 by Darina Shevchenko, Yodnews.ru

Kozhnev: The automotive industry has been laying off employees around the country. Since the beginning of the year, the demand for cars has fallen 20-30%.

Management has forced workers to quit, shift to part-time work or agree to significant pay cuts.

The Interregional Trade Union Workers Association (ITUWA) has countered with strikes and pickets.

Center “E” (Center for Extremism Prevention) has responded by taking measures against union members.

Last weekend, Center “E” officers detained members of the ITUWA Kaluga local.

They demanded that the activists confess to working for western secret services and acting to destabilize the situation in Russia.

Dmitry Kozhnev, leader of the ITUWA Kaluga local, told Yod that the trade union has long had a difficult relationship with the local security forces, and more recently,

members of the National Liberation Movement (NOD) have targeted workers for persecution.

The ITUWA was founded in 2006 by members of trade union organizations from the Ford plant in the Petersburg suburb of Vsevolozhsk and the AvtoVAZ plant in Togliatti.

The trade union unites workers from more than fifteen companies.

Its chair, Alexei Etmanov, was elected to the legislative assembly of Leningrad Region in 2011. The ITUWA's motto is "Don't cry, organize!"

Interviewer: On what grounds were trade union members taken in by Center "E" over the weekend?

Under the pretext that a robber who had hit a passerby with a bottle and stolen something had dashed into the room where we had gathered for a routine meeting.

About forty security forces officers arrived.

They detained fifteen of us, took us to a police station, and asked us about our activities, what protests we were planning.

They told us that, under the guise of defending workers' rights, we were spying for the US, destabilizing the regime, and engaging in provocations.

We hear this song from Center "E" constantly.

Apparently, law enforcement officers find it difficult to believe that an organization can be independent and act on its own.

Have Center "E" and the FSB showed interest in your activity before?

Our union emerged in 2008. During this time we have become stronger and our actions have gotten results. In (2012), a strike at the Benteler Automotive plant led to the workers signing a collective agreement that we drafted.

We got the bonus included in the salary and a ban on duties other than those stipulated in the contract.

At the Volkswagen plant we forced management to increase salaries by almost four times, from seven to thirty thousand rubles a month.

In the summer of 2013, Volkswagen management was changing equipment. They wanted to let the workers go for a week, and then have them work off the missed days on weekends.

By law, management has a right to do this, but plant workers opposed it.

They were furious at the prospect of working weekends in the summer, when every day off is worth its weight in gold.

We told management they should pay the missed week as down time, while the workers would go to work voluntarily and at double the pay. Management stood their ground, and then we began to prepare for a strike.

By the way, according to Russian law, it is almost impossible to strike.

Management must be notified seven days in advance. During this time, management can succeed in appealing the strike in court and then the strike cannot start on time.

So we start the strike and notify management simultaneously. That is what we did back then at Volkswagen. We also picketed dealerships and informed consumers that we could not vouch for the quality of the cars assembled during the strike. We got what wanted.

Now our trade union has influence at different plants and can exercise control over the situation.

After the number of union members went over four hundred at Volkswagen in 2009, and we began doing street protests, Center “E” got on our case.

And as soon as relations between workers and management would heat up, Center “E” would show up and put pressure on us, including arrests, harassment, and surveillance. But pressure and persecution have only strengthened the organization.

Give an example of persecution by Center “E”.

As soon as our work started to produce results, we began getting summons to Center “E” and were threatened with criminal prosecution.

Once they blocked my car on the street and took me down to the station.

They tried to catch several comrades with allegedly faked sick leave forms, threaten to take them to court, and force them to inform on trade union leaders.

One worker and trade union member had a weapon planted on him.

He got into a car with security officials. They handed him a bundle, said it contained a gun used to commit a crime, and now he would either rat on his colleagues or be convicted for the crime.

The comrade refused to be an informant and took the story public big time, and they left him alone.

Another comrade of ours was press-ganged into the army.

Because of a serious leg injury, the guy had been declared unfit for military service. During a routine medical exam at the draft board, he was suddenly declared healthy. He insisted on an independent medical examination.

The guy was then abducted on the street and sent to the army.

He served his term, and came back angry and able to use weapons. And he is working in the trade union again. The ranks of our trade union's foes continue to swell. Recently, the National Liberation Movement (NOD) joined them.

How come? You don't participate in opposition rallies, do you?

NOD considers us Banderites because anarchists carrying flags with anarchist symbols attend our rallies. They think that since the Banderites have black-and-red flags, and anarchists use the same colors, they are in cahoots.

It is ridiculous, of course.

It is useless to ask the NODites questions; it is better not to talk with these cartoon characters.

Anatoly Artamonov, governor of Kaluga Region, has also called us agents of the West. And this is a guy who has built his region's economy on cooperation with companies from NATO countries and has awards from NATO countries!

This is the trend now. Anyone who defends their rights is a fifth columnist and agent of the State Department.

The security forces' interest in you has to do with the crisis in the automotive industry and presumed activism on the part of trade unions. At what plants is the situation the most tense?

It is easier to say which plants have no problems: the plants that produce luxury-class cars. They are the only ones where everything is all right.

All the other plants are undergoing layoffs, which are hidden for the time being. Workers are being persuaded to quit voluntarily, to accept part-time schedules and pay cuts. But I think the crisis will continue, and the actions of management will become harsher.

But we will vigorously defend the interests of workers.

Editor's Note. The ITUWA was originally known as the Interregional Trade Union of Autoworkers (ITUA). It changed its name in 2013, although the union's well-known abbreviation in Russian (MPRA) has remained the same.

Increasing Numbers Of Russian Don't Support Territorial Expansion:

“The Kremlin Has Reallocated \$7.2 Billion From Russians’ Pension Funds” To Support Crimea; “The Funds Will Not Be Reimbursed”

23 March 2015 Levada Center, Meduza [Excerpts]

The number of Russians who support the territorial expansion of Russia has fallen, according to polls conducted by independent polling and research agency Levada Center.

In March 2015, 32 percent of those polled claimed they want Russia to expand into the territories of former Soviet republics.

One year earlier, in March 2014, 58 percent of those polled expressed this sentiment.

In 2013, 49 percent voiced support for territorial expansion. In 2010, this figure stood at 46 percent, and in 2006 – at 60 percent.

About one-third of those polled in March 2015 said that Russia has the right to annex parts of former Soviet states due to the fact that Russians residing in these countries today may experience violations of their rights.

One year before, 58 percent of respondents expressed this opinion.

In March 2014, Crimea seceded from Ukraine and became a part of Russia. This resulted in a massive strain on the Russian budget.

The Kremlin has reallocated \$7.2 billion from Russians’ pension funds to support the new territory, and the funds will not be reimbursed.

In September of last year, polls showed that 73 percent of Russian supported the annexation.

Farmworkers Strike Against Work Conditions In Mexico’s San Quintin Valley:

So Many Farmworkers Are Participating Media “Describe It More As A Rebellion Than A Protest” “I’m Defending Myself Because Nobody Has Given Me Any Justice”

March 25, 2015 Free Speech Radio News

Thousands of farmworkers are on strike in the Mexican agricultural hub of San Quintin. The protests erupted last week with farmworkers blocking a key highway of the Baja California peninsula to call for better working conditions at a group of agribusiness operations that supply the U.S. market. Shannon Young reports.

So many farmworkers are participating in the San Quintin strike that media in the region just south of the Mexican border with California describe it more as a rebellion than a protest.

When the strike first began on Tuesday, March 17th as many as half of the area’s 75 thousand farmworkers refused to show up to harvest the fruits and vegetables now ripe for export to U.S. markets.

The government responded with a quick and heavy hand.

State police in armored vehicles shot tear gas and rubber bullets at farmworkers blocking the Transpeninsular Highway and cell phone footage of the crackdown went viral.

Police made around 200 arrests and soldiers were sent in to keep watch over the area mega-farms owned by a politically connected elite.

The vast majority of the farmworkers in the fields of San Quintin are indigenous migrant laborers from Mexico’s poorest states: Oaxaca, Chiapas and Guerrero.

Their demands include raising the daily minimum wage to the equivalent of about \$20, reducing the average workday from 12 to eight hours, payment of overtime for work performed on Sundays, the right to organize independent of the official unions and an end to rampant sexual abuse of women in the fields.

“There are labor laws but they aren’t respected,” one woman told regional outlet Plex, without giving her name. “The bosses give us areas to clear that are far too big and they pay us a pittance. When I worked at the Núñez farm they paid me 50 pesos (just over \$3) a day because they said I didn’t work fast enough and that I couldn’t say anything about it. I’m defending myself because nobody has given me any justice!”

Since the initial crackdown, state authorities have shifted into damage control mode, announcing a handful of social benefit programs and agreeing to direct negotiations with the farmworkers. The outcome of those negotiations may determine the fate of the valley's spring harvest.

60,000 Canadian Post-Secondary Students Go On Strike: “Opposing Hikes In Tuition Fees And Other Austerity Measures” Police In Quebec City Attack And Arrest 274



Anti-austerity march in Montreal, March 21, 2015, photo by Canadian Press

March 25, 2015 By Roger Annis, rogerannis.com/ [Excerpts]

Post-secondary students across Quebec have launched a “social strike” and protest movement opposing hikes in tuition fees and other austerity measures of the Quebec provincial government.

They are also condemning the destructive environmental policies of the Canadian and Quebec governments.

The strike movement began on March 23 and is led by the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante (ASSÉ—Association for Trade Union Student Solidarity). According to Le Devoir French-language daily, some 60,000 post-secondary students went on strike on March 23.

The Quebec government will table a financial budget on March 26 which contains proposals to hike post-secondary tuition fees and cut many social programs.

The 'Springtime 2015' movement was officially launched by ASSÉ with a march of students and workers on a snowy Saturday, March 21 in Montreal. It drew more than 10,000 people. The lead banners of the march read, "Social strike". A report on the march is published in Rabble.ca. Photos are on Huffington Post.

The strike is projected to last for several weeks and more student associations will be voting across the province in the coming days to join it.

A Quebec-wide day of protest has been called for April 2. According to the Facebook page of , some 80,000 students have voted to go on strike that day. Leaders of public sector trade unions are reportedly resisting the pressure from many members to stage a one-day general strike that day.

The student group is aiming to spur a broad, unitary movement in Quebec against austerity and against the environmental destruction of the capitalist, fossil-fuel based economy. \

There have been large protests in Quebec in recent months by trade unions opposed to austerity and by environmental groups opposed to the continued extraction and burning of fossil fuels, including the transport to Quebec by pipeline or rail of Alberta tar sands bitumen product and fracked, shale oil from North Dakota.

Student-led protests are taking place across regions of Quebec.

Students at Laval University in Quebec City have voted to strike. The duration of strikes at each institution vary and are subject to ongoing review.

ASSÉ has 70,000 members in 35 affiliated student associations.

Yesterday evening, March 24, several thousand students and other anti-austerity protesters marched through downtown Montreal. The march was organized by the Mouvement étudiant révolutionnaire (Revolutionary Student Movement), which is affiliated with a Maoist party called the Revolutionary Communist Party.

The protest was declared "illegal" by police because organizers declined to request permission from police to stage it, as stipulated by Montreal city bylaw P-6. The law is a decades-old anachronism that was updated in 2012 to be used to clamp down on the mass student movement that staged an historic, months-long strike that year.

Nearly two hours after the march began yesterday, police issued an order to disperse and then attacked.

Charges from 2012 under P-6 are still winding through the courts and the law is facing a supreme court challenge.

Earlier the same day, Montreal police staged "preventive" arrests of three protesters in the city center.

On Monday, police dispersed a daytime student protest of hundreds that was headed to the headquarters of the giant engineering company SNC Lavalin.

Le Devoir cites police in reporting that 24 people were arrested under the terms of P-6 and two were arrested under Criminal Code charges.

Directors of SNC Lavalin are awash in accusations and criminal charges of using bribes to win contracts in foreign countries as well in contracts for construction of a new, \$1.3 billion 'super hospital' in downtown Montreal.

In Quebec City on the same evening, city police arrested an astounding number of protesters at a similar student protest—274 in total!

As in Montreal, protesters in Quebec City gathered at 9 pm, in front of the National Assembly.

Thirty minutes later, police attacked, citing infractions of 'peace and order' city bylaws.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE



Palestinian Youths Burn A Mobile Home In Bracha Illegal Settlement: [These Palestinians Are Dangerous]

[They Resist Foreign Military Occupation]



Image By Maan News Agency

March 20, 2015 by IMEMC & Agencies

The Maan News Agency has reported that a number of Palestinian youths burnt, Friday, a mobile home in Bracha illegal Israeli settlement outpost, built on Palestinian lands belonging to Iraq-Burin residents, south of the northern West Bank city of Nablus.

The youths managed to enter the illegal outpost and set the empty structure ablaze before leaving the area. No clashes were reported.

Maan said the soldiers invaded the village after surrounding it, leading to clashes between them and dozens of local youths.

The soldiers also declared curfew, forcing the residents under house arrest, until further notice.

In addition, soldiers fired rounds of live ammunition, and gas bombs, including several bombs that directly targeted a number of homes.

It is worth mentioning that Israeli extremists, living in illegal outposts in the area, repeatedly invade the village, in addition to attacking the villagers and their farmlands.

Zionist Settlers Uproot Olive Trees In Palestine, As Usual:

“Since 1967, Approximately 800,000 Olive Trees Have Been Uprooted In The Occupied West Bank”

03/21/2015 Ma'an

NABLUS (Ma'an) -- Settlers uprooted over 60 olive trees in the central West Bank on Thursday, a Palestinian official said.

Settlers from the Adei Ad outpost south of Nablus uprooted the trees on land belonging to Hajj Mahmoud al-Araj in the village of Turmusaya.

Attacks on olive trees are a key way that Palestinians are forced out of their homes and their lands confiscated for settlement construction, as the loss of a year's crop can signal destitution for many.

The olive industry supports the livelihoods of roughly 80,000 families in the occupied West Bank.

Since 1967, approximately 800,000 olive trees have been uprooted in the occupied West Bank, according to a joint report by the Palestinian Authority and the Applied Research Institute Jerusalem.

Occupation Forces Fire On Unarmed Palestinian Fishermen, As Usual: Damage Two Boats Offshore Gaza; Also Fire On Unarmed Palestinian Farmers, As Usual

March 19, 2015 WAFA

GAZA – Israeli army Thursday opened fire towards Palestinian fishermen sailing in their boats offshore Gaza city who were sailing four miles into the sea and damaged two boats at the least, according to WAFA correspondent.

Reports from Gaza showed that the fishermen in the damaged boats had to sail back to escape from the Israeli naval forces, which did not hesitate to open fire at the fragile boats.

Israeli navy opens fire at fishermen almost on a daily basis.

In the recent weeks, a fisherman was killed and another was injured after Israeli naval boats targeted them with gunfire, despite sailing within the six-nautical-mile zone offshore the Gaza Strip.

The attacks against fishermen in Gaza are not only jeopardizing their lives, but also the lives of their families and the economy in the war-weary strip.

Fishing is considered the main industry in Gaza, which continues to be undermined by Israel, causing the entire community to suffer from the worsening economic conditions. OXFAM reported on the fishing industry and fishermen saying, "With most of the fish at least nine miles out at sea, they have already been struggling to make a living and now 90 percent of them need international aid."

A 59-year-old Palestinian fisherman, Mohammad, was quoted in a 2013 OCHA report speaking about the hardship of being a fisherman in Gaza. He said, "Recently, I had to accept a marriage proposal for my 17-year-old daughter, because I can't provide her with proper food and housing, let alone send her to college. I hope she will have a better life with her husband."

The sea areas accessible to fishermen in Gaza witnessed major reduction since 1994. The report said that in 1994, Palestinian fishermen had access to 20 NM off the Gaza shores.

However in 2002 they were allowed access to 12 miles, and later reduced in 2006 to six NM. However, at the end of the Israeli military offensive "Cast Lead" in January 2009, the accessible area was further reduced to just three NM.

After the latest ceasefire agreement it was expanded again to six NM.

According to OCHA's Access Restricted Areas (ara) in the Gaza Strip report of 2013, "Since June 2007, five Palestinian fishermen were killed and 25 injured when Israeli naval forces opened fire to enforce access restrictions."

In a related issue, tensions continue in the strip with Israeli soldiers firing at Palestinian farmers who attempted to access their agricultural land at the borders.

They were faced by Israeli border guards, who forced them to leave their land at once.

ANERA said in a 2013 report that "Agriculture in Gaza has also been hit hard by the blockade on exports and imports.

A total of 46 percent of agricultural land in Gaza is inaccessible or unusable due to destruction of land during "Operation Cast Lead" and by the "security buffer zone" along Gaza's northern and eastern borders with Israel."

It reported that the buffer zone alone contains 29 percent of Gaza's arable land;

A large percentage when compared to the large number of Palestinian refugees who live in Gaza, which is estimated at around 1,760,037 in 2014 by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL

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RECEIVED

“It's Them Damned Russians Again”

From: frank scott
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: March 29, 2015

Subject: Re: Military Resistance 13C11: A Soldiers' Truth

yep...it's them damned russians again..

putin wants to kill 30 or 40 million more than stalin and take over the universe

when that shit comes from the far right and neo-nazis as well as what passes for a far left (of the ku klux klan?) in america, maybe it's a genetic disorder common to the master race of self chosen people?

Frank Scott writes political commentary and satire which appears online at the blog Legalienate: <http://legalienate.blogspot.com>

Reply: T

Thank you for your comment.

The United States is run by a corrupt pack of super rich capitalists, called oligarchs, who intend to oppress and exploit every piece of the earth they can get their hands on for their Empire, and don't give a shit about freedom, democracy, the right of nations to self-determination, or anything else besides heaping up their money.

Russia is run by a corrupt pack of super rich capitalists, called oligarchs, who intend to oppress and exploit every piece of the earth they can get their hands on for their Empire, and don't give a shit about freedom, democracy, the right of nations to self-determination, or anything else besides heaping up their money.

Both have their apologists, who certainly do infest political discussions here and elsewhere.



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.

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