

## **Military Resistance 13D3**



**Using Wrong Kitty Litter  
Poisons Only Us Nuclear  
Weapons Waste Facility:  
“Reckless Disregard For Safety”  
“Shipping The Waste Was Illegal”  
“Providing The Fallacious Manifest That  
Accompanied The Drums Was Illegal”**

07 April 15 By William Boardman, Reader Supported News

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**Now it's official: using the wrong kitty litter can cause a severe and expensive nuclear accident at the nation's unique underground radioactive waste containment facility, shutting it down indefinitely.**

What's NOT official yet is why the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) used organic kitty litter that caused the nuclear waste accident in the first place, or why LANL used that kitty litter in some 678 other drums of radioactive nuclear weapons waste now located at LANL and other locations.

**It's also NOT official that the wrong kitty litter was deliberately and deceitfully used for more than a year.**

Nor is it yet clear why the federal government, having violated New Mexico environmental laws, refuses to pay the state \$54 million in fines for federal law-breaking.

Last winter, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) appointed a Technical Assessment Team of independent experts from other government labs, and the team spent most of a year investigating the 2014 Valentine's Day radiation-release accident at New Mexico's federal Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP).

**On March 26, 2015, the team produced a 277-page report that concluded that radiation was released from the facility when a single container (Drum 68660) over-heated and failed because the nuclear weapons waste it contained was packed with the wrong kind of kitty litter.**

**That kitty litter was "chemically incompatible" with the other contents of the drum, causing it to overheat, creating gases that forced open the lid in a "thermal runaway" that led to the spill that released radiation to the environment and that still renders a large section of the underground storage area lethal to humans.**

The assessment team concluded that the February 14, 2014, drum failure took about 70 days to develop before the drum was breached.

The accident released radioactive isotopes of Uranium, Plutonium, and Americium in uncertain amounts that are officially thought to be relatively small. As of early April 2015, Drum 68660 is the only drum that has failed.

**The experts determined that there were other containers in which radioactive waste was packed with the wrong kitty litter, and that any of these might fail, although they say they believe another failure is unlikely.**

**In part because the accident site remains largely inaccessible, the assessment team wrote that it "could not determine the cause of the drum breach with absolute certainty."**

While most of the drums of nuclear weapons waste laden with organic kitty litter are already underground at WIPP, there are an estimated 113 in temporary storage in Texas and 57 remaining at LANL.

One of the drums at LANL is a "sibling drum" to the one that burst underground.

The two drums were packed with waste from the same “parent drum” and with the same Swheat Scoop kitty litter, but other elements of their contents were slightly different. The drum still at LANL is monitored for heat and remains intact.

### **“Reckless Disregard For Safety”**

LANL has shipped more than 1,000 drums of waste to WIPP since it opened in 1999. Remaining LANL waste stored above ground on-site was threatened by wildfire in 2011 and remains near an earthquake fault line.

The DOE assessment team did not address the question of why the waste packing process at Los Alamos stopped using non-organic kitty litter as usual and switched to Swheat Scoop.

The World Nuclear Association, an industry group in London, explains the kitty litter mix-up by saying: “The DOE did not specify its preferred brand.... However, SwheatScoop happens to be made from wheat and therefore contains carbohydrates which provided fuel for a chemical reaction with the metal nitrate salts being disposed of.”

Each 55-gallon drum of nuclear waste typically includes about 50 pounds of kitty litter.

Rumors that the accident at WIPP was caused by the wrong kitty litter used by LANL surfaced soon after it happened.

In May 2014, New Mexico’s Environment Department secretary, Ryan Flynn, issued a formal order to LANL to secure the drums with the wrong kitty litter, saying in part:

“Based on the evidence presented to NMED, the current handling, storage, treatment and transportation of the hazardous nitrate salt bearing waste containers at LANL may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to health or the environment.”

Was LANL cutting safety corners to cut costs?

**In November 2014, after a six-month investigation, the Santa Fe New Mexican portrayed LANL as behaving either incompetently, or with reckless disregard for safety, or with something like criminal negligence – perhaps a mixture of all three.**

**Motivating LANL malfeasance, the paper suggests, was the desire of the private contractors running the lab to meet the June 30, 2014, deadline for clearing waste from the site, thereby protecting and extending its \$2.2 billion annual operating contract with the U.S. Energy Department as well as another \$80 million a year for managing LANL.**

Like so much of the U.S. nuclear weapons program, LANL is a cozy, profitable, corporate-welfare monopoly for a private consortium calling itself Los Alamos National Security.

The Delaware Limited Liability Company was formed eight years ago by four entities: Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services, URS Energy and Construction, Bechtel, and the

University of California. As stated in its by-laws, the company purpose is “to manage and operate the Los Alamos National Laboratory in a manner that furthers the interests of the national security and advances the DOE/NNSA missions, programs and objectives in accordance with the terms of the Prime Contract.”

In other words, it is a privately held national security profit center that, according to Bloomberg, “engages in the businesses of nuclear defense programs, facilities management, science and technology to homeland security challenges, and safety and security.”

Los Alamos National Security LLC is, by its very nature, a limited liability conflict of interest in which at least one conflict is between profit and security.

As viewed by the New Mexican, the parent company, Los Alamos National Security, allowed its employees at LANL to take numerous actions that could protect the company’s profits by risking the security of others. The gambit appears to have failed by just one drum. Its elements, perpetrated or allowed by LANL employees or contractors, included, according to the New Mexican:

**•... workers packaging the waste came across a batch that was extraordinarily acidic, making it unsafe for shipping. The lab’s guidelines called for work to shut down while the batch underwent a rigid set of reviews to determine how to treat it, a time-consuming process that jeopardized the lab’s goal of meeting the deadline.**

**Instead, the lab and its various contractors took shortcuts in treating the acidic nuclear waste, adding neutralizer and a wheat-based organic kitty litter to absorb excess liquid.**

•Documents accompanying the drum, which were supposed to include a detailed description of its contents ... made no mention of the acidity or the neutralizer, and they mischaracterized the kitty litter as a clay-based material – not the more combustible organic variety that most chemists would have recognized as hazardous if mixed with waste laden with nitrate salts....

**•Documents and internal emails show that even after the radiation leak, lab officials downplayed the dangers of the waste – even to the Carlsbad managers whose staff members were endangered by its presence – and withheld critical information from regulators and WIPP officials investigating the leak.**

**•The waste container that ultimately burst would not have met federal transportation standards to get on the road from Los Alamos to Carlsbad, nor would it have been accepted at WIPP, if its true ingredients had been reported by the lab.**

•In documents filed with the New Mexico Environment Department before the accident, LANL reported that the waste in the drum that would later burst “is stable and will not undergo violent chemical change without detonating,” and “there is no indication that the waste contains explosive materials, and it is not capable of detonation or explosive reaction. The materials in the waste stream are therefore not reactive wastes.

- LANL has never publicly acknowledged the reason it switched from clay-based litter to the organic variety believed to be the fuel that fed the intense heat.

- Organic kitty litter may have been mixed in up to 5,565 containers of waste at LANL starting in September 2012 that were incorrectly labeled as holding inorganic litter, according to an assessment conducted by WIPP personnel.**

LANL did not respond to inquiries by RSN seeking an explanation for the change from inorganic to organic kitty litter during 2012-2014.

Commenting on the story in the New Mexican, Greg Mello of the Los Alamos Study Group wrote in part: “The treatment processes LANS (the LLC) used were illegal as well as dangerous. Shipping the waste was illegal. Providing the fallacious manifest that accompanied the drums was illegal. Failing to provide accurate information after the fact when NMED asks for it was and is illegal.”

### **“Cost Of Failure Of The Single Drum Contaminated With Organic Kitty Litter Will Almost Surely Run Into The Hundreds Of Millions Of Dollars”**

In the most recent study group bulletin, Mello notes that not every misdeed in the nuclear world will reach the public and cites an example from December 2014 when eight people at LANL were apparently contaminated with Plutonium but there was no news coverage.

The cost of failure of the single drum contaminated with organic kitty litter will almost surely run into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

WIPP alone estimates its recovery plan will cost at least \$500 million, and an additional \$200 million or so for an improved, new ventilation system. These estimates do not include the additional costs of holding the nuclear waste stream while WIPP is closed, or the cost of improvement and compliance at LANL or any other facility.

**When it opened in 1999, WIPP was supposed to have a 10,000 year leak-proof design life protecting the public from nuclear weapons waste radiation.**

**That design life turned out to be only 15 years of safety, although further releases of radiation since Valentine’s Day 2014 have apparently been limited.**

The Department of Energy says it is committed to reopening WIPP by March 2016, at least for partial operation, but that’s uncertain, since no one has ever tried to fix an underground nuclear waste facility before.

**Meanwhile, the ceiling of the underground salt cave had a significant collapse in January, when a section of ceiling 8 feet by 8 feet and two feet thick fell in a non-contaminated section of the one square mile storage area.**

As WIPP management acknowledged at the time: “This event highlights the need to continue prioritizing roof bolting and ground control in both the contaminated and uncontaminated areas of the WIPP underground facility in order to ensure safety and

habitability in the underground. This area was originally scheduled to be re-bolted during the annual outage in February 2014.”

In March, more than a year after Drum 68660 burst, decontamination of the underground area began, as reported by WIPP: “Employees are using a modified piece of agricultural spraying equipment that allows them to apply a fine water mist to the walls and floor. The water dissolves the salt and washes it down to the floor. When the salt recrystallizes , it encapsulates the contamination and prevents any resuspension of radioactive particles.”

And now the federal government has reversed its past practice of paying fines for violating state laws and regulations. In December 2014, New Mexico’s Environment Department levied a total of \$54 million in fines on the federal (outsourced) operations at WIPP (\$17.7 million) and LANL (\$36.6 million). Now the Energy Department is taking the position that it would be illegal to pay New Mexico’s fines, even though it has done so in the past. New Mexico is reportedly preparing a new order against WIPP, LANL, and others with fines totaling \$100 million.

Underlying this struggle over the safety of nuclear weapons waste is the Obama administration’s perpetuation of longstanding reliance on a massive nuclear weapons force comprising more than 7,500 warheads, more than 2,000 of which are presently deployed around the world. The Obama administration has embarked on a program of improving and expanding the American nuclear force. A key element of that program is the fabrication of Plutonium pits (nuclear bomb triggers).

Making these essential elements of American weapons of mass destruction has been assigned to the Los Alamos National Laboratory, even though LANL has demonstrated its ability and willingness to gamble on lying about using the wrong kitty litter.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# **US Soldier Killed In Firefight Between U.S. And Afghan Troops: More Wounded**

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

Apr 08, 2015 WCVB

KABUL, Afghanistan —An Afghan soldier shot and killed a U.S. soldier and wounded two others Wednesday before being shot dead.

**The shooting happened after Afghan provincial leaders met a U.S. Embassy official at the compound of the Nangarhar provincial governor in the city of Jalalabad.**

All U.S. Embassy staff were accounted for and safe, the diplomatic mission said.

"Right after the U.S. official had left, suddenly an Afghan army soldier opened fire on the U.S. soldiers who were present in the compound," said Afghan Gen. Fazel Ahmad Sherzad, the police chief for eastern Nangarhar province

The American troops returned fire, killing the Afghan soldier, whom Sherzad identified as Abdul Azim of Laghman province.

Neither Sherzad nor the U.S. Embassy identified the senior American diplomat at the meeting.

Information was sketchy and an eyewitness initially told The Associated Press that four U.S. troops had been wounded in the attack - not three as Sherzad said - and were being treated at a clinic on the American base in Jalalabad.

Noman Atefi, the spokesman for the Afghan National Army's eastern corps command, said one Afghan soldier had been killed and two others wounded in the shootout. It was not immediately clear if the fatality he was referring to was the attacker.

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest, when asked about the shooting, said it "underscores that Afghanistan continues to be a dangerous place."

At the Pentagon, spokesman Col. Steve Warren said an investigation into the shooting was underway and indications suggested it was an insider attacker.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE  
BLOODSHED**

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE  
WAR**

## **Afghan Police Desert Checkpoints in Sangin District**

08 April 2015 by Farid Hussainkhail, TOLONews

A number of Afghan Police have left their checkpoints in Sangin district of Helmand province, local officials said.

**Officials and tribe elders in Helmand province said that the departure of police has coinciding with the end of the Zulfiqar military operation.**

**Reports indicate that police in the district said that without national army support and co-operation they could not remain at their security checkpoints.**

The Zulfiqar military operation in Sangin was launched almost 50 days ago in a bid to rid local villages of insurgents. It has been a key operation carried out by Afghanistan National Army (ANA) members.

Earlier this week Dawlat Waziri, deputy spokesman at the Ministry of Defense, said that 311 insurgents in total have been killed and 114 have been injured in Helmand province, while the operation has resulted in the deaths of 42 ANA soldiers.

**MPs have said that considering the financial and human losses incurred during the operation, the achievements are not that positive.**

Sangin is one of the most insecure districts of Helmand which is also a major route for narcotics and drug trade, providing funding for insurgency.

The operation was launched after reports surfaced of an increase in poppy cultivation in the southern parts of the country where insurgents have taken advantage as they receive funding through this activity.

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## **Resistance Action: Insurgent Attack OVERRUNS Court In Balkh**



[Graphic: flickr.com/photos]

09 April, 2015 IANS

At least four people were killed and 25 wounded in an insurgent attack on a court in the northern Afghan province of Balkh on Thursday, official sources said.

Five to six insurgent armed with suicide vests and rifles stormed the provincial attorney's office in provincial capital Mazar-i-Sharif. They killed the policeman guarding the compound before entering the buildings at around 11:30 a.m.



"Sporadic gunfire was still going on in the evening," a security source told Xinhua news agency.

Those killed were a district police chief, a city judge and two policemen, the source said, adding that "the number of casualties might go up".

About 25 officials and civilians, including women and children, sustained injuries and were shifted to hospitals in the relatively peaceful city, 305 km north of Afghanistan's capital Kabul.

Many of those wounded are in critical condition.

The attackers were disguised in military uniforms. Many officials and visitors were rescued by the security forces.

Unconfirmed reports said that a few people were taken hostage by the attackers.

Two explosions took place and one of the buildings in the compound caught fire, the source noted.

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09 April 2015 by Farid Hussainkhail, TOLONews

A group of Taliban insurgents on Wednesday attacked an Afghanistan National Army (ANA) outpost in Faryab province resulting in the deaths of at least four soldiers and five Taliban members, security officials said.

Mohammad Reza Reza, the 209th Shaheen Military Corps spokesman, said that in addition to this, the Taliban carried out a number of attacks – using firearms and missiles - on other outposts in Qaysar and Gorzaiwan districts of the province.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**



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

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

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

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

**Frederick Douglass, 1852**

**All revolutions are surprises, and we cannot predict future struggles.  
-- Ian Birchall; Grim And Dim**

## **“The Pathway Of Tyrants Lies Over Volcanoes”**

**“Oppression, Organized As Ours Is,  
Will Appear Invincible Up To The  
Very Hour Of Its Fall”**

**“Those Who Enslave, Rob, And Torment  
Their Cooks, May Well Expect To Find  
Death In Their Dinner-Pots”**



**Your fathers have said that man's right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility. The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man's right to liberty is to the moral vision.**

**Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.**

**May 1857 By Frederick Douglass, Speech on the Dred Scott Decision [Excerpt]**

**[Dred Scott v. Sandford was a decision by the United States Supreme Court, 1857, written by Chief Justice Taney, ruling that people of African descent imported into the United States and held as slaves (or their descendants, whether or not they were slaves) were not protected by the Constitution, and that "The negro has no rights which the white man is bound to respect."]**

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While four millions of our fellow countrymen are in chains--while men, women, and children are bought and sold on the auction-block with horses, sheep, and swine--while the remorseless slave--whip draws the warm blood of our common humanity--it is meet that we assemble as we have done to-day, and lift up our hearts and voices in earnest denunciation of the vile and shocking abomination.

It is not for us to be governed by our hopes or our fears in this great work; yet it is natural on occasions like this, to survey the position of the great struggle which is going on between slavery and freedom, and to dwell upon such signs of encouragement as may have been lately developed, and the state of feeling these signs or events have occasioned in us and among the people generally.

It is a fitting time to take an observation to ascertain where we are, and what our prospects are.

To many, the prospects of the struggle against slavery seem far from cheering.

Eminent men, North and South, in Church and State, tell us that the omens are all against us.

Emancipation, they tell us, is a wild, delusive idea; the price of human flesh was never higher than now; slavery was never more closely entwined about the hearts and affections of the southern people than now; that whatever of conscientious scruple, religious conviction, or public policy, which opposed the system of slavery forty or fifty years ago, has subsided; and that slavery never reposed upon a firmer basis than now.

Completing this picture of the happy and prosperous condition of this system of wickedness, they tell us that this state of things is to be set to our account. Abolition agitation has done it all.

How deep is the misfortune of my poor, bleeding people, if this be so! How lost their condition, if even the efforts of their friends but sink them deeper in ruin!

Without assenting to this strong representation of the increasing strength and stability of slavery, without denouncing what of untruth pervades it, I own myself not insensible to the many difficulties and discouragement that beset us on every hand. They fling their broad and gloomy shadows across the pathway of every thoughtful colored man in this country.

For one, I see them clearly, and feel them sadly. With an earnest, aching heart, I have long looked for the realization of the hope of my people. Standing, as it were, barefoot, and treading upon the sharp and flinty rocks of the present, and looking out upon the boundless sea of the future, I have sought, in my humble way, to penetrate the intervening mists and clouds, and, perchance, to descry, in the dim and shadowy distance, the white flag of freedom, the precise speck of time at which the cruel bondage of my people should end, and the long entombed millions rise from the foul grave of slavery and death.

But of that time I can know nothing, and you can know nothing. All is uncertain at that point.

One thing, however, is certain; slaveholders are in earnest, and mean to cling to their slaves as long as they can, and to the bitter end.

They show no sign of a wish to quit their iron grasp upon the sable throats of their victims.

Their motto is, "a firmer hold and a tighter grip" for every new effort that is made to break their cruel power.

The case is one of life or death with them, and they will give up only when they must do that or do worse.

In one view the slaveholders have a decided advantage over all opposition.

It is well to notice this advantage--the advantage of complete organization.

They are organized; and yet were not at the pains of creating their organizations.

The State governments, where the system of slavery exists, are complete slavery organizations.

The church organizations in those States are equally at the service of slavery; while the Federal Government, with its army and navy, from the chief magistracy in Washington, to the Supreme Court, and thence to the chief marshalship at New York, is pledged to support, defend, and propagate the crying curse of human bondage.

**The pen, the purse, and the sword, are united against the simple truth, preached by humble men in obscure places.**

This is one view.

It is, thank God, only one view; there is another, and a brighter view.

David, you know, looked small and insignificant when going to meet Goliath, but looked larger when he had slain his foe.

The Malakoff [a fortress in Russia stormed by French soldiers] was, to the eye of the world, impregnable, till the hour it fell before the shot and shell of the allied army.

**Thus hath it ever been.**

**Oppression, organized as ours is, will appear invincible up to the very hour of its fall.**

Sir, let us look at the other side, and see if there are not some things to cheer our heart and nerve us up anew in the good work of emancipation.

**Take this fact--for it is a fact--the anti-slavery movement has, from first to last, suffered no abatement.**

**It has gone forth in all directions, and is now felt in the remotest extremities of the Republic.**

**It started small, and was without capital either in men or money. The odds were all against it.**

**It literally had nothing to lose, and everything to gain.**

There was ignorance to be enlightened, error to be combatted, conscience to be awakened, prejudice to be overcome, apathy to be aroused, the right of speech to be secured, mob violence to be subdued, and a deep, radical change to be wrought in the mind and heart of the whole nation.

This great work, under God, has gone on, and gone on gloriously.

Amid all changes, fluctuations, assaults, and adverses of every kind, it has remained firm in its purpose, steady in its aim, onward and upward, defying all opposition, and never losing a single battle.

Our strength is in the growth of anti-slavery conviction, and this has never halted.

There is a significant vitality about this abolition movement. It has taken a deeper, broader, and more lasting hold upon the national heart than ordinary reform movements. Other subjects of much interest come and go, expand and contract, blaze and vanish, but the huge question of American Slavery, comprehending, as it does, not merely the weal or the woe of four millions, and their countless posterity, but the weal or the woe of

this entire nation, must increase in magnitude and in majesty with every hour of its history.

From a cloud not bigger than a man's hand, it has overspread the heavens.

It has risen from a grain not bigger than a mustard seed. Yet see the fowls of the air, how they crowd its branches.

Politicians who cursed it, now defend it; ministers, once dumb, now speak in its praise; and presses, which once flamed with hot denunciations against it, now surround the sacred cause as by a wall of living fire.

Politicians go with it as a pillar of cloud by day, and the press as a pillar of fire by night. With these ancient tokens of success, I, for one, will not despair of our cause.

Those who have undertaken to suppress and crush out this agitation for Liberty and humanity, have been most woefully disappointed.

Many who have engaged to put it down, have found themselves put down.

The agitation has pursued them in all their meanderings, broken in upon their seclusion, and, at the very moment of fancied security, it has settled down upon them like a mantle of unquenchable fire.

Clay, Calhoun, and Webster each tried his hand at suppressing the agitation; and they went to their graves disappointed and defeated.

Loud and exultingly have we been told that the slavery question is settled, and settled forever.

You remember it was settled thirty-seven years ago, when Missouri was admitted into the Union with a slaveholding constitution, and slavery prohibited in all territory north of thirty-six degrees of north latitude.

Just fifteen years afterwards, it was settled again by voting down the right of petition, and gagging down free discussion in Congress.

Ten years after this it was settled again by the annexation of Texas, and with it the war with Mexico.

In 1850 it was again settled. This was called a final settlement. By it slavery was virtually declared to be the equal of Liberty, and should come into the Union on the same terms. By it the right and the power to hunt down men, women, and children, in every part of this country, was conceded to our southern brethren, in order to keep them in the Union.

Four years after this settlement, the whole question was once more settled, and settled by a settlement which unsettled all the former settlements.

**The fact is, the more the question has been settled, the more it has needed settling.**

The space between the different settlements has been strikingly on the decrease.

The first stood longer than any of its successors.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement. We are now --the second, ten years--the third, five years--the fourth stood four years --and the fifth has stood the brief space of two years.

This last settlement must be called the Taney settlement.

We are now told, in tones of lofty exultation, that the day is lost all lost and that we might as well give up the struggle. The highest authority has spoken. The voice of the Supreme Court has gone out over the troubled waves of the National Conscience, saying peace, be still.

This infamous decision of the Slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court maintains that slaves are within the contemplation of the Constitution of the United States, property; that slaves are property in the same sense that horses, sheep, and swine are property; that the old doctrine that slavery is a creature of local law is false; that the right of the slaveholder to his slave does not depend upon the local law, but is secured wherever the Constitution of the United States extends; that Congress has no right to prohibit slavery anywhere; that slavery may go in safety anywhere under the star-spangled banner; that colored persons of African descent have no rights that white men are bound to respect; that colored men of African descent are not and cannot be citizens of the United States.

You will readily ask me how I am affected by this devilish decision--this judicial incarnation of wolfishness?

My answer is, and no thanks to the slaveholding wing of the Supreme Court, my hopes were never brighter than now.

I have no fear that the National Conscience will be put to sleep by such an open, glaring, and scandalous tissue of lies as that decision is, and has been, over and over, shown to be.

The Supreme Court of the United States is not the only power in this world. It is very great, but the Supreme Court of the Almighty is greater.

Judge Taney can do many things, but he cannot perform impossibilities. He cannot bale out the ocean, annihilate the firm old earth, or pluck the silvery star of liberty from our Northern sky. He may decide, and decide again; but he cannot reverse the decision of the Most High. He cannot change the essential nature of things--making evil good, and good evil.

Happily for the whole human family, their rights have been defined, declared, and decided in a court higher than the Supreme Court. "There is a law," says Brougham, "above all the enactments of human codes, and by that law, unchangeable and eternal, man cannot hold property in man."

**Your fathers have said that man's right to liberty is self-evident. There is no need of argument to make it clear. The voices of nature, of conscience, of reason, and**

**of revelation, proclaim it as the right of all rights, the foundation of all trust, and of all responsibility.**

**Man was born with it. It was his before he comprehended it. The deed conveying it to him is written in the center of his soul, and is recorded in Heaven.**

**The sun in the sky is not more palpable to the sight than man's right to liberty is to the moral vision.**

To decide against this right in the person of Dred Scott, or the humblest and most whip-scarred bondman in the land, is to decide against God. It is an open rebellion against God's government. It is an attempt to undo what God has done, to blot out the broad distinction instituted by the Allwise between men and things, and to change the image and superscription of the everliving God into a speechless piece of merchandise.

Such a decision cannot stand. God will be true though every man be a liar. We can appeal from this hell-black judgment of the Supreme Court, to the court of common sense and common humanity. We can appeal from man to God. If there is no justice on earth, there is yet justice in heaven. You may close your Supreme Court against the black man's cry for justice, but you cannot, thank God, close against him the ear of a sympathizing world, nor shut up the Court of Heaven.

All that is merciful and just, on earth and in Heaven, will execrate and despise this edict of Taney.

If it were at all likely that the people of these free States would tamely submit to this demoniacal judgment, I might feel gloomy and sad over it, and possibly it might be necessary for my people to look for a home in some other country.

But as the case stands, we have nothing to fear.

In one point of view, we, the abolitionists and colored people, should meet this decision, unlooked for and monstrous as it appears, in a cheerful spirit.

This very attempt to blot out forever the hopes of an enslaved people may be one necessary link in the chain of events preparatory to the downfall and complete overthrow of the whole slave system.

The whole history of the anti-slavery movement is studded with proof that all measures devised and executed with a view to ally and diminish the anti-slavery agitation, have only served to increase, intensify, and embolden that agitation.

This wisdom of the crafty has been confounded, and the counsels of the ungodly brought to nought.

It was so with the Fugitive Slave Bill. It was so with the Kansas-Nebraska Bill; and it will be so with this last and most shocking of all pro-slavery devices, this Taney decision.

When great transactions are involved, where the fate of millions is concerned, where a long enslaved and suffering people are to be delivered, I am superstitious enough to



believe that the finger of the Almighty may be seen bringing good out of evil, and making the wrath of man redound to his honor, hastening the triumph of righteousness.

The American people have been called upon, in a most striking manner, to abolish and put away forever the system of slavery. The subject has been pressed upon their attention in all earnestness and sincerity.

The cries of the slave have gone forth to the world, and up to the throne of God.

This decision, in my view, is a means of keeping the nation awake on the subject. It is another proof that God does not mean that we shall go to sleep, and forget that we are a slaveholding nation.

Step by step we have seen the slave power advancing; poisoning, corrupting, and perverting the institutions of the country; growing more and more haughty, imperious, and exacting. The white man's liberty has been marked out for the same grave with the black man's.

The ballot box is desecrated, God's law set at nought, armed legislators stalk the halls of Congress, freedom of speech is beaten down in the Senate. The rivers and highways are infested by border ruffians, and white men are made to feel the iron heel of slavery.

This ought to arouse us to kill off the hateful thing. They are solemn warnings to which the white people, as well as the black people, should take heed.

If these shall fail, judgment, more fierce or terrible, may come.

**The lightning, whirlwind, and earthquake may come.**

**Jefferson said that he trembled for his country when he reflected that God is just, and his justice cannot sleep forever.**

**The time may come when even the crushed worm may turn under the tyrant's feet. Goaded by cruelty, stung by a burning sense of wrong, in an awful moment of depression and desperation, the bondman and bondwoman at the south may rush to one wild and deadly struggle for freedom.**

**Already slaveholders go to bed with bowie knives, and apprehend death at their dinners.**

**Those who enslave, rob, and torment their cooks, may well expect to find death in their dinner-pots.**

The world is full of violence and fraud, and it would be strange if the slave, the constant victim of both fraud and violence, should escape the contagion.

He, too, may learn to fight the devil with fire, and for one, I am in no frame of mind to pray that this may be long deferred.

Two remarkable occurrences have followed the presidential election; one was the unaccountable sickness traced to the National Hotel at Washington, and the other was the discovery of a plan among the slaves, in different localities, to slay their oppressors.

Twenty or thirty of the suspected were put to death. Some were shot, some hanged, some burned, and some died under the lash.

One brave man owned himself well acquainted with the conspiracy, but said he would rather die than disclose the facts.

He received seven hundred and fifty lashes, and his noble spirit went away to the God who gave it.

The name of this hero has been by the meanness of tyrants suppressed. Such a man redeems his race. He is worthy to be mentioned with the Hoffers and Tells, the noblest heroes of history.

**These insurrectionary movements have been put down, but they may break out at any time, under the guidance of higher intelligence, and with a more invincible spirit.**

**The fire thus kindled, may be revived again; the flames are extinguished, but the embers remain; one terrible blast may produce an ignition, which shall wrap the whole South in wild conflagration.**

**The pathway of tyrants lies over volcanoes; the very air they breathe is heavy with sorrows; agonizing heart-throbs convulse them while sleeping, and the wind whispers death as over them sweeping.**

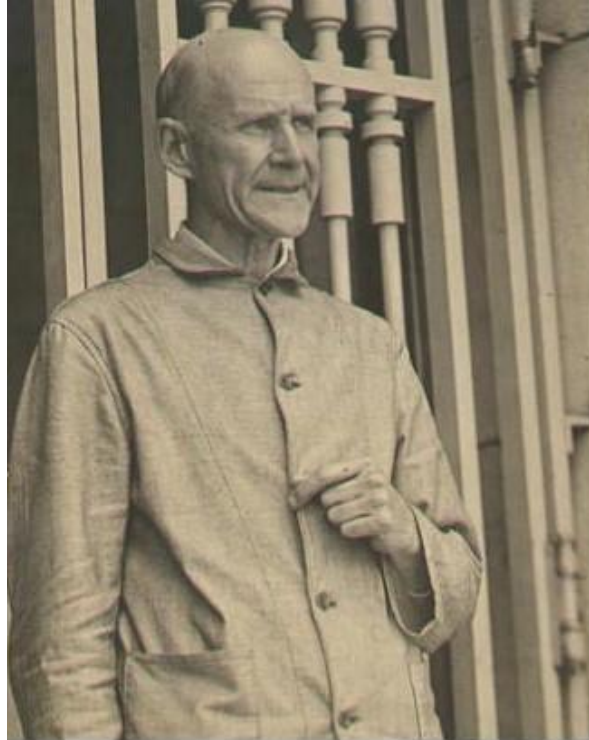
**By all the laws of nature, civilization, and of progress, slavery is a doomed system.**

**Not all the skill of politicians, North and South, not all the sophistries of Judges, not all the fulminations of a corrupt press, not all the hypocritical prayers, or the hypocritical refusals to pray of a hollow-hearted priesthood, not all the devices of sin and Satan, can save the vile thing from extermination.**

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## **ANNIVERSARIES**

### **April 13, 1919: A Hero Imprisoned For Opposing Imperial War**



Eugene V. Debs when he was a prisoner at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, sentenced for opposing U.S. entry into World War I.

U.S. Department of Labor, "Labor Hall of Fame Honoree"  
<<http://www.dol.gov/oasam/programs/laborhall/evd.htm>>



Carl Bunin Peace History April 13-19

Socialist and labor leader Eugene V. Debs was imprisoned for opposing U.S. entry into World War I.

**While in prison, he received nearly one million votes for President in the 1920 election (as he had in 1912).**

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***April 14, 1988:  
Very Happy Anniversary***

# Next To Last Government To Invade Afghanistan Withdraws In Defeat



Happy Russian soldiers going home.

Carl Bunin Peace History April 9-15

April 14, 1988: The Soviet Union signed an agreement to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan after ten years of humiliating defeats at the hands of Afghan resistance forces.

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS

### **The Pros And Cons Of Body Cameras For Police;**

**Pro:**

**Provides Accurate Record Of Where  
Police Were When They Turned Off  
Body Camera;**

**Con:**

# Only Going To Be The Irrefutable Video Evidence's Word Against The Police Officer's



Apr 9, 2015 The Onion

Following several high-profile civilian deaths at the hands of police officers, many Americans have called for the mandatory use of body cameras by law enforcement as a means of curbing the excessive use of force and providing clear accounts of officers' actions.

Here are some of the pros and cons of body cameras for police officers:

## PROS

- Provides accurate record of where police were when they turned off their body camera
- Helps to reinstate trust between Americans and surveillance
- Unlimited footage of police officers breathing heavily during a foot chase
- Turning camera askew allows officers to record beatings with stylish Dutch angles
- More things to watch
- Finally gives Americans glimpse at what it's like to turn on that siren and gun it straight through a red light

## CONS

- Major invasion of privacy for police officer and man he has in chokehold
  - Costs money that could be used on machine guns and armored vehicles
  - Police brutality might lose its mystique
  - Those could be anyone's arms bashing citizen with nightstick
  - Distracting to officers who must now shift focus to cinematography and mise en scène
  - Is still only going to be the irrefutable video evidence's word against the police officer's
-

## DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



### **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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

### **Unarmed Palestinian Fisherman Shot By Occupation Forces, As Usual**

April 09, 2015 by IMEMC News & Agencies

Israeli forces, Wednesday, shot and injured a Palestinian man with a rubber-coated steel bullet as he fished off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip.

Local sources said that fisherman Khalid Zayid was shot while he was at sea, off the coast of the town of Beit Lahiya.

Israeli authorities maintained a limit of three miles on all activities of fishermen in the Gaza Strip until August, when Hamas negotiated a six-mile limit as part of the ceasefire that concluded Israel's two-month summer assault that left 2,200 dead.

According to the terms of the ceasefire, the fishing zone was supposed to expand incrementally, over the months which followed.

But Israeli authorities have frequently shot at Palestinian fishermen inside the limit, and three have been killed since then.

Twenty-nine attacks by Israeli forces on Palestinian fisherman have have been reported since Sept. 1 by Gaza-based watchdog al-Mezan Center for Human Rights, however due to the normalcy of such incidents, attacks often go unreported.

The center also said that 42 fisherman had been detained and 12 fishing boats confiscated in the same period.

There are approximately 4,000 fishermen in Gaza.

According to a 2011 report by the International Committee of the Red Cross, 90 percent are poor, an increase of 40 percent from 2008 and a direct result of Israeli limits on the fishing industry.

The Gaza Strip has been under a blockade imposed by the State of Israel since 2006 which has devastated the economy through near-complete limits on imports and exports.

The blockade has massively increased Palestinian dependence on international food aid, and the fishing industry is one of the few ways Gazans can produce their own food sources.

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## **This Is What A Police Dictatorship Looks Like: Palestinian Teen Arrested, Jailed And Fined For Writing “Forgive Me” On Facebook; “He Wrote The Post For Personal Reasons After An Argument With His Brothers”**

04/08/2015 Ma'an

JERUSALEM -- Israeli police on Wednesday released Hadi al-Ajlouni, 17, after being arrested last week for his activity on social media, the teenager told Ma'an.

Al-Ajlouni was released after paying a fine of 1,000 shekels (\$254) and was sentenced to seven days under house arrest.

He was also banned from Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for 30 days.

The teenager said he was detained on Friday while leaving his house in the Old City on suspicion of planning an attack on Israelis.

During an interrogation at the Russian Compound detention center, Israeli officers said they suspected him of the charges after he wrote "forgive me" on Facebook.

The teenager said he wrote the post for personal reasons after an argument with his brothers.

"I was accused of planning an attack because on Thursday I wrote 'forgive me' on Facebook, but I denied the charges," he said.

Israeli intelligence officers showed him several posts he had published on his Facebook page since 2010, including one saying "Palestine" and others with pictures of Al-Aqsa Mosque, marches, and the kuffiyeh.

He was interrogated a total of three times during in time in police custody.

In December, eight Palestinians from occupied East Jerusalem were indicted for inciting anti-Jewish violence and supporting "terror" in postings on Facebook, the largest operation yet aimed at halting incitement to violence on social networks.

Israelis on social media routinely and openly incite violence against Palestinians, especially during heightened periods of tensions such as this summer's military offensive on Gaza, but none have yet faced prosecution.

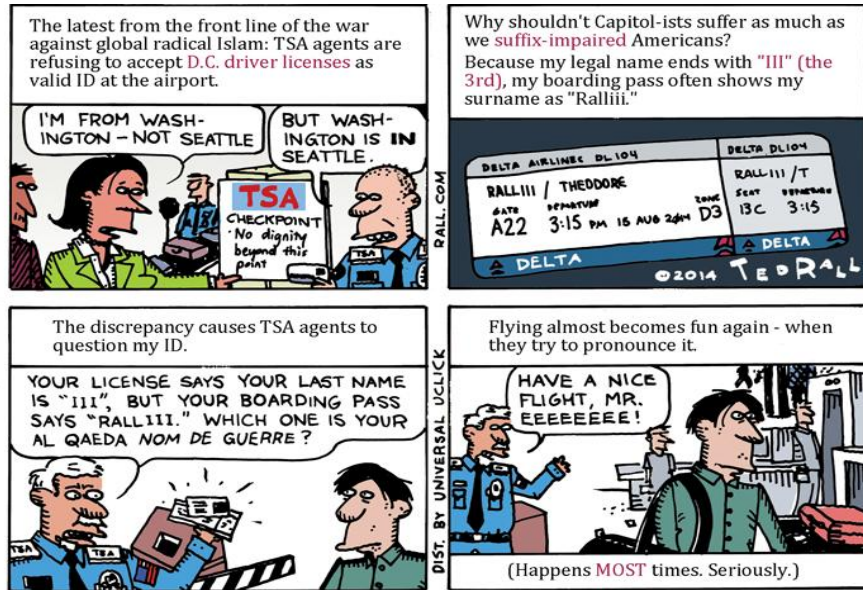
**TO CHECK OUT WHAT LIFE IS LIKE UNDER A  
MURDEROUS MILITARY OCCUPATION COMMANDED  
BY FOREIGN TERRORISTS, GO TO:**

**<http://www.maanneews.net/eng/Default.aspx> and  
[http://www.palestinemonitor.org/list.php?id=ej898ra7yff  
0ukmf16](http://www.palestinemonitor.org/list.php?id=ej898ra7yff0ukmf16)**

**THE OCCUPIED NATION IS PALESTINE.  
THE FOREIGN TERRORISTS CALL THEMSELVES  
"ISRAELI."**



# DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.*

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