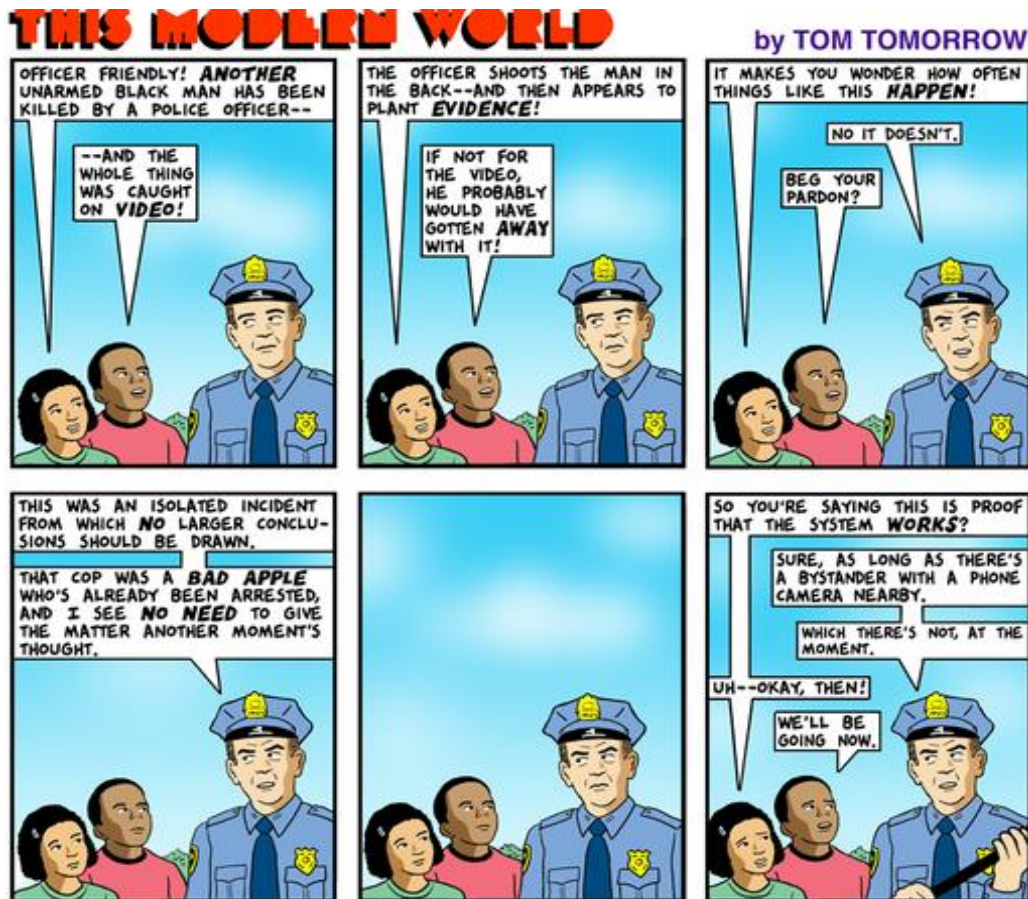


## Military Resistance 13D7



**Inkster Policeman Beats And Plants Evidence On 57 Year-Old Auto Worker:  
“The Video Shows A Cop Punching Him In The Head 16**

# **Times While Holding Him On The Ground”**

**“I Saw Them Plant The Drugs In My Car. An Innocent Man Does Not Plead Guilty”**

**“Video Has Surfaced Which Appears To Show The Cops Planting The Drugs”**



Protesters stand behind Floyd Dent as he speaks to the media. (photo: Clarence Tabb Jr/AP)

**“We realize there’s two different kinds of justice,” Starghill said. “There’s American justice and then there’s black justice. And America says that you are innocent until proven guilty; in black America we feel we are guilty until we are proven innocent.”**

**“I don’t care if he’s got a kilo of cocaine and two dead bodies in that car, I don’t give a shit,” he said. “It’s never appropriate ever to see that kind of brutality visited upon someone being arrested.”**

Mar 30, 2015 The Spark & By Ryan Felton, Guardian UK [Excerpts]

A police dashcam video came out showing police in Inkster, a Detroit suburb, beating Floyd Dent during a traffic stop.

At about 10pm, the Detroit native says he went to visit a blind friend in the neighboring city of Inkster, to deliver a bottle of Rémy Martin and a 40oz of Bud Ice. He stayed for a few minutes, then left to drive home.

Moments later, a police cruiser behind him flipped on its overhead lights. According to a police report on the incident, Dent, 57, had failed to use a traffic signal and disregarded a stop sign.

The police say Dent was driving with a suspended license.

According to the office of Dent's attorney, Greg Rohl, his driving record indicates the suspension was related to an unpaid driving ticket from several years ago.



Twisted Freak Menendez: Daily Kos

### **“Get Out The Car, Before I Blow Your Fucking Head Off”**

He continued to drive at roughly the same speed for about three-quarters of a mile, to a well-lit area where he says he felt comfortable. There, near an old police station, he pulled to the side of the road.

**Dent opened his door and put both his hands out of the window.**

**“I wanted to let them know I’m unarmed,” he told the Guardian.**

**According to Dent, one of the officers told him to “get out the car, before I blow your fucking head off”.**

Dent opened his door and was dragged out of his Cadillac; almost immediately, William Melendez put him in a chokehold. Melendez then proceeded to deliver 16 blows to Dent's temple. This all took place in about 15 seconds.

Another officer arrived moments later and proceeded to use a taser stun gun against Dent, three times. In the video, Dent, with blood dripping from his forehead and cheek, appears not to be resisting Melendez's efforts to arrest him.

**Dent says Melendez choked him so tightly he couldn't breathe.**

**"At one point, I just gave up," he said in an interview on Sunday at his attorney's office. "I thought that was it for me."**

**The cops claim Dent refused their orders to show his hands, but the video shows a cop walking up to Dent's car after he opened the door, shoving a gun in Dent's face, yanking him out of the vehicle, immediately throwing him to the ground and attempting a choke hold on him, then punching him in the head 16 times while holding him on the ground.**

Dent wound up with fractures to his face, bleeding in the brain, and 4 broken ribs.

The cops claim they found crack cocaine in Dent's car and charged him with possession of crack along with resisting and obstructing police. After seeing the video, a judge dropped the resisting and obstruction charges, but let the drug possession charges stand.

Dent is a 57 year-old black worker with no previous arrests.

**He has worked at the nearby Ford Rouge plant for 37 years. He refused a plea bargain and is speaking out against the drug possession charge saying, "I saw them plant the drugs in my car. An innocent man does not plead guilty."**

While Dent was sitting in the back seat of a cruiser, police say they found a small bag of cocaine underneath the passenger seat of his vehicle.

**Another video has surfaced which appears to show the cops planting the drugs in Dent's car.**

Dent, whose post-arrest drug test came up negative, says police planted that evidence. Rohl, Dent's attorney, contends that a close review of a video released this week shows Melendez pulling a bag of drugs from his pocket.

"I saw [an officer] with drugs in his hand, and I thought, 'Look at them dirty dogs,'" Dent said. "After that I just held my head down."

The cop seen punching Dent in the video is William Melendez, a former Detroit cop with a history of similar abuses.

**At a later hearing, Melendez testified that even before any traffic violation occurred, he planned to investigate Dent simply because he had stopped to visit someone in a part of Inkster known for problems with drugs.**

Melendez, 46, claimed Dent was immediately combative and bit his forearm, though he would later testify there were no marks because he was wearing several layers of

clothing. Dent denies the accusation. Melendez said the bite was enough reason to begin repeatedly punching Dent.

“I was afraid that I might contract something,” Melendez testified, earlier this month. “I needed to assure that Mr Dent would not do that again.”

For that, Dent says he spent two days in hospital for a fractured left orbital, blood on the brain and four broken ribs.

Inkster, with a population of about 25,000, is 73% black. Melendez is Hispanic; the other eight officers who arrived to the scene on 28 January were white.

The Inkster police department, is 95 per cent white.

### **“Former Inkster Police Chief, Said The Allegations Levied By Dent Came As No Surprise”**

What happened to Dent is a microcosm of what has been happening around the country for decades, where the cops grab someone and put a felony on him. It’s part of the so-called War on Drugs. First called for by Ronald Reagan, many of the changes in the laws encouraging the campaign came under the Clinton administration.

**As part of the drug war, the federal government offered grant money to local police departments. That required cops to makes arrests, often for very small time drug possession.**

Many cops were not so anxious to arrest people over such petty crimes, so the federal government “incentivized” them by requiring the police departments to show that they were being effective in carrying out the drug war.

That meant showing increases in drug arrests. The grants were, in effect, a bounty for making more arrests.

**The War on Drug grants, which continued under Bush, have only continued to increase under Obama. Vice President Joe Biden was a strong proponent of the drug war in the Senate during the Clinton administration; and Rahm Emanuel, Obama’s first chief of staff, also strongly supported it.**

**Add to these grants laws giving the police the power to confiscate money and property of anyone on suspicion of involvement in drug-related crimes and the incentives for cops to concoct reasons for drug arrests increase even more.**

**It’s easy to see that a worker like Floyd Dent with no previous criminal history was targeted.**

Imagine how many young men, on the streets with no job and little possibility of getting one have been similarly targeted, with no ability to offer much of a legal defense. Petty drug arrests only worsen the likelihood of their finding jobs.

The War on Drugs is a weapon intended to imprison a section of the black population that was the most militant part of the working class, and still potentially is.

So long as the cops are allowed to carry out such terror against the black population, the ruling class which employs them will be able to keep the entire working class under its thumb.

**Hilton Napoleon, a former Inkster police chief, said the allegations levied by Dent came as no surprise.**

**Citizens told him during his three-year tenure that officers planted evidence at a crime scene, he said.**

**“I tried to get them to come forward and make an official complaint ... but they’re scared,” said Napoleon, who resigned in 2014.**

**“And rightfully so.”**

“People are up in arms, everywhere,” Napoleon, who is black, told the Guardian. “And they’re looking at the police with a jaundiced eye now.”

In the wake of the video showing Dent’s beating, demonstrations took place in Inkster

Bishop Walter Starghill, president of the Western Wayne office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), said he immediately met officials in Inkster, seeking ways to engage the community and let residents know the incident involving Dent would not be “swept under a rug”.

“I was shocked,” Starghill told the Guardian, when asked what he thought of the video. “It wasn’t a pretty sight; it brought a lot of concern to see somebody to be actually treated that way.”

Starghill compared the clip to the infamous beating of Rodney King by Los Angeles police in 1991, saying it afforded the public an opportunity to witness what took place. King’s beating, captured on camera, sparked serious riots.

**“We realize there’s two different kinds of justice,” Starghill said. “There’s American justice and then there’s black justice. And America says that you are innocent until proven guilty; in black America we feel we are guilty until we are proven innocent.”**

**The only person who has been prosecuted since the incident is Dent.**

Regardless of this, said Rohl, the kind of treatment Dent received is unacceptable.

**“I don’t care if he’s got a kilo of cocaine and two dead bodies in that car, I don’t give a shit,” he said. “It’s never appropriate ever to see that kind of brutality visited upon someone being arrested.”**

In the case of Inkster, the question of a financial settlement with Dent comes at a difficult time for the city. Since 2012, Inkster has been under a consent agreement with the state

of Michigan to address its dire financial problems. During Napoleon's short stint as police chief, the number of officers in the department dropped from 73 to 24.

**"You have a city that can barely keep its doors open, and now they're gonna have to come up with a bunch of money and throw it on the backs of taxpayers," he said.**

**"Melendez Has Been Accused Of Planting Evidence, Wrongfully Killing Unarmed Civilians, Falsifying Police Reports And Conducting Illegal Arrests"**

Melendez's record shows he has faced similar allegations before.

At one point, he garnered more citizen complaints than any officer in Detroit, where he started his career in 1993 and served until his resignation in 2009.

He entered Inkster's police force a year later.

Over nearly two decades, Melendez has been named as a defendant in a dozen federal lawsuits, accused of planting evidence, wrongfully killing unarmed civilians, falsifying police reports and conducting illegal arrests. Some suits were settled out of court. Others were dismissed.

**In 1996, Melendez, who was known in Detroit as "RoboCop", and his partner shot and killed Lou Adkins.**

**While Adkins was on the ground, several witnesses said the officers shot him 11 times, according to the Detroit Free Press. The case was settled for \$1.05m, court records show.**

Later, in 2002, Melendez and a group of officers arrested Detroit resident Darrell Chancellor, a convicted felon, for possession of a firearm. Chancellor testified that he was sitting in a car with a group of friends when Melendez drove by with his partner. Chancellor and his friends exited the vehicle quickly "because it was RoboCop", Chancellor testified.

Accounts of the incident between Chancellor and Melendez vary wildly. The officer claimed Chancellor threw a gun; Chancellor denied he had one. About 15 minutes later, according to Chancellor's testimony, Melendez put a gun on top of the vehicle and said: "Chancellor, this is your gun." Chancellor denied the accusation.

While Chancellor was being transferred to the police precinct, an argument broke out. Melendez, Chancellor said, told him to "shut the F up" or he would also plant drugs on him.

Chancellor spent 213 days in jail. When federal prosecutors reviewed the case, the firearm possession charge against him was dismissed.

**The US prosecutor's office examined Chancellor's case as part of an investigation into allegations against Melendez, who was cited as the ringleader of numerous officers indicted by a federal grand jury in 2003 on civil rights violations.**

The officers were acquitted in 2004; jurors who spoke with the Detroit News explained they didn't believe the government's witnesses, many of whom had criminal records.

### **“The Officers Planted A Gun Near His Body Before Falsifying Statements And Lying Under Oath”**

Around the time Chancellor's case was concluded, in 2007, the city of Detroit settled another suit involving Melendez for \$50,000.

**The lawsuit alleged Melendez and his partners knocked on Ernest Crutchfield III's door in November 2003. When they received no response, they entered the premises without a search warrant and, in the kitchen, shot Crutchfield dead.**

**According to the case, the officers planted a gun near his body before falsifying statements and lying under oath.**

Between 1987 and 2004, more than 3,400 Detroit officers were named as defendants in a lawsuit, according to a 2005 city report on police settlements. By that time, court records indicate, Melendez had been sued nine times. Only 26 officers in Detroit had been involved in as many cases, the report stated.

**Melendez, who could not be reached for comment, is currently named as a defendant in one case related to conduct in Inkster. In July 2011, he is alleged to have assaulted Deshawn Acklin, choking him until he lost consciousness. Acklin was using the bathroom at a friend's house when Melendez and other officers arrived, on suspicion of an alleged shooter being inside.**

**Melendez – who would later contend Acklin resisted arrest – is alleged to have beaten Acklin until another officer said “that's enough”. While being treated in hospital, Acklin testified that Melendez asked him how he liked his “wrestling moves” while he was choked. Melendez denies ever saying that.**

**Eventually, a court filing stated, Acklin “succumbed to the pain and lack of oxygen and passed out while defecating on himself”.**

**After he was treated at a hospital for a closed head injury, a left foot sprain and bleeding from his eyes, Acklin spent three days in custody, according to the case. He was never charged with a crime.**

Dent says the video of his incident is a painful reminder of treatment he never expected to receive.

“My hope with him having the courage to step forward is that people who have not been heard can come and have a collective voice,” said Rohl.

Dent is a spiritual man. “Sometimes I just wanna be by myself and think, ‘Why did this have to happen to me?’” he said.

“But then again, I thought, the man upstairs wanted me to expose him.”



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**“Santiago Blocked Him From Entering His Home, Pulled His Gun And Held It Against The Man’s Head”**

**“Then Santiago Proclaimed To The Men: ‘We’re PGPD. We Shoot People’”**

**Prince Georges County Cops “Have A Decades-Old Reputation For Being Aggressive And Dangerous”**

Mar 30, 2015 The Spark

Last week a PG County [Prince Georges County] cop was indicted on charges that included first-degree assault and misconduct in office.

Officer Jenchesky Santiago was on patrol in a Bowie, Maryland neighborhood last May when he told two men they were parked illegally outside a home.

They were not.

The driver explained he was dropping off his cousin. Santiago ordered the man who had been walking toward his house to return to the car. When the man didn’t return, Santiago blocked him from entering his home, pulled his gun and held it against the man’s head.

Then Santiago proclaimed to the men: “We’re PGPD. We shoot people.”

Many people in PG County felt like the cop was speaking the truth! One person even suggested changing the police department motto, from “Protect and Serve” to “We Shoot People.”

PG County’s police chief Mark Magaw said in a statement, “These actions are not indicative of the high standards we expect from our officers.”

**But this is not an isolated incident and PG County cops have a decades-old reputation for being aggressive and dangerous.**

**In July of 1999, the U.S. Justice Department complained about excessive use of force by the PGPD canine unit.**

In 2005, at least three PG cops seriously beat a University of Maryland student during what they called a "riot" after Maryland beat rival team Duke.

**In February of 2012, corporal Donald Taylor beat Ryan Dorn so hard with the butt of his gun that the weapon fired.**

**He was also indicted for assault and misconduct in office, but later found "not guilty" and acquitted of all charges.**

**Also in 2012, Corporal Ricky Adey was indicted for assaulting a teenage boy during an arrest. Adey was also acquitted.**

It seems like it's business as usual for the Prince Georges county Police Department.

Time for that business to be shut down!

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**“Get On The Fucking Ground Or  
You’re Dead”**

**“Officer Shouting At Mentally Ill  
Man Seconds Before He Shot Him  
As He Tried To Run Away”**

**“Police Claim He Attacked Them With  
‘Deadly Force’ Using Broom Handle”**

**“But The Video Footage Appears To  
Show Him Trying To Flee The Officers  
Before He Was Fatally Shot”**

9 April 2015 By Keiligh Baker for MailOnline, Daily Mail

Damning footage has revealed the moment a Florida police officer shouted: 'Get on the fucking ground or you're dead,' moments before he shot a mentally ill man as he was running away.

The family of Lavall Hall, released the shocking video which calls into question the Miami Gardens police department's account of the incident on February 15.

The clip captured from the police car at the scene shows shell cases flying as a police officer shot the 25-year-old schizophrenic, who was black, on February 15.

The police department said the officers were forced to shoot because Hall 'attacked' them with 'deadly force' using the broom - but the video footage appears to show him trying to flee the officers before he was fatally shot.

Attorneys for Hall's family released the 19 minutes of dash-cam video yesterday afternoon at a press conference and it shows Hall was being chased by police before he was shot at five times.



Lavall Hall

Hall, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, had been released from a mental hospital just one week earlier and was suffering from a psychotic episode when his mother, Catherine Daniels, called police to take him to a mental health unit, reports Fusion.

Hall's family have now filed a wrongful death lawsuit in federal court in Miami against the city of Miami Gardens and the two police officers, Peter Ehrlich and Eddo Trimino.

According to the complaint Ms Daniels had previously called police for help with her son, and the department was aware of his condition, alleging excessive use of force by police and wrongful death.

'Hall was unable to communicate, clearly did not understand what was going on, and was visibly scared,' it said.

Two of the five bullets fired hit Hall Miami Gardens police told reporters in the days after the incident - explaining that Hall had attacked officers with the broom.

But Hall's lawyers argue that the police used 'excessive force' after he ran away from them.

**His lawyers said Hall was holding the broomstick and dressed only in his underpants but the video shows he can be seen running from the police.**

Ms Daniels said at a news conference yesterday: 'I never thought they going to kill my child, murder my child,' adding she was 'devastated' when she first saw the video.

'He was standing outside just holding the broomstick in his hand,' Daniels said. 'And I told him, 'Baby, come back inside, it's cold.'

As the video played at the news conference, one of the attorneys for the family said Ms Daniels can be heard telling police before the shooting, 'Please don't hurt my child, please' ABC news reported.

Her attorney added: 'The officers had made up their minds that they were going to kill Lavall before this incident took place.'

'They killed him, murdered him,' said Melissa Edwards, the mother of Hall's daughter, at the news conference.

An attorney for Eddo Trimino, the officer involved, told the Miami Herald the video indicated that the officer had shot out of fear.

The video was released amid national protests over a series of deaths resulting from police use of force, most recently with another video showing a white South Carolina police officer shooting an apparently unarmed black man in the back.

'People are saddened and angered but also exasperated that we're again seeing the devaluation of black lives on streets of the United States,' said Muhammed Malik, organizer of the Miami Committee on State Violence.

A spokesman for Florida State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle told ABC News that the investigation is ongoing but they have concerns the video may endanger the investigation.

Oscar Marrero, attorney for the officers, told ABC News: 'The officers were faced with a dangerous situation.

'They have already given statements to investigators indicating Mr. Hall struck them with a weapon and deadly force was used.

'The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene. The reliable evidence will establish Officers Trimino and Ehrlich acted appropriately.'

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# Cop Beats Handcuffed Man: “A Coward Move”

Mar 26, 2015 13abc Action News & March 29, 2015 By Matt Agorist, The Free Thought Project

Toledo, OH — Police in Toledo will have a hard time building the trust of their citizens after a cellphone video showed one of their officers assaulting a handcuffed man.

“Police brutality captured at its finest,” said Brad Bollinger, the man who filmed this flagrant assault last week.

The man being punched in the face by the officer is 20-year-old Raymond Rober.

**He was in handcuffs and cooperating with officers when out of nowhere, a female officer walks up to him and punches him.**

Rober’s sister Amanda tells 13abc that at first her brother ran from police, but then he surrendered as his friends on the sidewalk also took video.

“As he leans his head down, he’s adjusting the handcuffs on the back of him because they’re probably uncomfortable and the lady officer strikes him in the side of the head,” says Bollinger

“It’s a coward move. It’s a thing of complete power. She knows that she has him, and he has nowhere to go, so she took complete advantage of it. It’s a sucker move.”

“It seems to me, based on the other officer’s conduct, he didn’t do something that justified being hit in any capacity,” Phil Stinson, a criminologist at Bowling Green State University, told ABC 13 News. “Certainly not while being handcuffed.”

Stinson is a former police officer who has been studying police crimes for ten years.

After he had been punched in the face, Rober was then booked into Lucas County Jail on multiple charges, including resisting arrest.

Police have not released the officer’s name and refuse to comment after they watched the video, stating only that the department has launched an investigation.

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## **Missouri Prosecutor Ignores Grand Jury: Drops First-Degree Assault And Armed Criminal Action Charges Against Cop**



Jackson County prosecutor Jean Peters Baker. (photo: Mike Ransdell/AP)

18 April 15 By Kevin Murphy, Reuters

A Missouri prosecutor on Friday dismissed charges against a Kansas City police officer indicted in February by a grand jury for the non-fatal shooting of a 37-year-old man last summer.

The dismissal comes amid heightened attention to police shootings after a murder charge against a North Charleston, South Carolina police officer and the decision by a grand jury last November not to indict a Ferguson, Missouri officer who fatally shot an unarmed man.

Jackson County Prosecutor Jean Peters Baker said an investigation and legal analysis found that evidence no longer supported the charges against 31-year-old Jacob Ramsey.

**A state grand jury charged Ramsey with first-degree assault and armed criminal action in the shooting of Anthony Contreras last June.**

Kansas City police said Ramsey was making a warrant check when Contreras ran from a house.

Police said he feared he was about to be shot and fired at Contreras, critically wounding him.

A plea of not guilty was entered for Ramsey in February. Baker said on Friday she could not carry the charges forward.

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**Texas Man In Jail 17 Days For  
Overgrown Lawn:  
There Was No Violation!**

# “More Often Than You Would Care To Think People Are Incarcerated Under False Pretenses”



Rick Yoes

April 5, 2015 by Brian Sumner, Fresno People's Media

Rick Yoes turned himself into the county jail last night in compliance with a warrant issued for his arrest after receiving a fine of \$1,700 for having an overgrown lawn in September of last year.

Unable to pay the fine Rick took every vacation day he accrued, made arrangements for a replacement, and surrendered himself to jail.

Rick is the South east campus electrician for Tarrant County College, he is a hard and dedicated worker often times offering to help outside of the description of his job or volunteering for extra curricular activities. In 2012 he dressed up in 1776 style regalia and read a copy of the U.S. Constitution to the student body.

Because of his dedication he is loved by faculty, and students. His collection of beautiful seashells is also on display at the campus.

**The incident happened last year in Grand Prairie, Tx, while Rick, and his daughter Angel were working from before sun up, until after dark. During this time the lawn was neglected, and it grew over the 6 inch regulatory code.**

The city sent them a reminder to cut the lawn, and within 2 weeks Angel had cut the lawn to regulation height. She said that they have been keeping the lawn “buzzed” ever since.

**I did some research, and found a regulation for Grand Prairie that said lawns can be up to 12 inches in height.**

Rick’s daughter Angel said this new regulation wasn’t familiar to her.

**Mr. Yoes may be locked up for nothing, and this may come as a surprise to some but more often than you would care to think people are incarcerated under false pretenses.**

Angel said “Yes, we should have been more on top of it, but we were so busy with work, and when we got a warning from the city we handled it.”

Neither of them thought about it again, until a postcard came in the mail a couple weeks ago from the city. It said that there was a warrant for Rick’s arrest, as well as a fine of \$1,700.

Angel told me the sum of the fine is the equivalent of 3 mortgage payments.

There are many silly aspects of this crime.

The fact that an overgrown lawn can land someone in jail for 17 days is absurd.

The fact that a small group of people are able to claim arbitrary authority over your property, and dictate how long you can grow your grass is completely void of any measure of liberty.

Long gone are the days when incarceration was for violent offenders like murderers and rapist.

Now the land of the free is home to over a quarter of the worlds prison population, and many of them are non violent offenders just like Rick.

In an official statement to the Fresno Peoples Media his daughter Angel expressed disappointment in the local government for squandering tax dollars on dangerous grass growers.

“I’m seriously disappointed with the way Grand Prairie is handling this situation. I think there are better ways to spend tax payer money than locking up dangerous grass growers“

**Military Resistance In PDF Format?**

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email: [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org)



## SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

### **Insurgents Carry Out Deadly Attack On Ministry Building In Somalia**



People escaping the scene of the attack, which the Islamist militant group the Shabab claimed responsibility for. Credit Mohamed Abdiwahab/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

APRIL 14, 2015 By MOHAMMED IBRAHIM APRIL, New York Times [Excerpts]

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Militants detonated a car bomb outside the Ministry of Higher Education building in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, and then stormed into the building on Tuesday, witnesses and officials said. The attack left at least 19 people dead, including seven attackers, and 15 more were wounded.

The Shabab, an Islamist group in Somalia, claimed responsibility for the assault.

Witnesses said the Somali minister of higher education left the building minutes before the attack began on Tuesday. Officials were meeting at the ministry to discuss plans announced on Monday to introduce standardized examinations for the nation's schools, witnesses and officials said.

The attack began with the car bombing. "A huge explosion shook the area, with huge smoke and flying shrapnel," said Nadifa Ali, who runs a kiosk near the ministry. "The car bomber struck at the outer walls of the ministry, but I survived."

The scene immediately became one of smoke, debris, pools of blood and burned bodies on the ground, witnesses said. After the blast, gunmen charged into the ministry and exchanged fire with guards.

A unit of the National Intelligence and Security Agency troops known as Onkod reached the scene within minutes, according to a statement by Gen. Abdirahman Mohamed Tuuryare, the head of the agency. "Our army managed to rescue all the people inside very quickly," the statement said. "All seven attackers were killed."

Mohamoud Ahmed, a senior official at the ministry who was in the building at the time of the attack, said at least nine civilians and three soldiers had been killed, including the police officer in charge of security at the ministry and a soldier from an African Union peacekeeping force.

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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**

**But out of this complicated web of material and psychic forces one conclusion emerges with irrefutable clarity: the more the soldiers in their mass are convinced that the rebels are really rebelling – that this is not a demonstration after which they will have to go back to the barracks and report, that this is a struggle to the death, that the people may win if they join them, and that this winning will not only guarantee impunity, but alleviate the lot of all – the more they realize this, the more willing they are to turn aside their bayonets, or go over with them to the people.**

**And the highest determination never can, or will, remain unarmed.  
-- Leon Trotsky; The History of the Russian Revolution**

# **Blindfolded**

Written by Dennis Serdel: Military Resistance 2010; Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade; United Auto Workers GM Retiree

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Blindfolded**

**I was born in March of 1947  
when my Father came home from WWII  
and married my Mother who worked  
as a Secretary in Kalamazoo.  
Yes, I am a true “Baby Boomer” or  
in other words a “War Baby” born  
from the “Greatest Generation.”  
I now know how they are going to handle  
the influx of all the “Baby Boomers”  
who are beginning to retire.  
The Companies are going bankrupt,  
They Say, and will Not pay me any  
Retirement pay or Health Care.  
But in the 1960’s, it was my turn to serve  
in the Army in Vietnam because  
I was fighting Against the Idea  
that a Country’s wealth should be  
evenly spread to All the Citizens  
as fair as possible.  
Instead, I was fighting for the Idea  
that a Few people should own  
the Wealth of a Country  
and the rest of the Citizens  
should be poor.  
But when I came home from the War  
I joined a Union and I was Not poor**

but "Middle Class."

However, it looks like I shall return  
to my proper place again

that being poor as the Unions are  
being stabbed in the back by  
Obama who represents the Few.

Did I mention that my Son is a  
"War Baby" from America's  
"Worst Generation ? "

So let him be especially  
laid off fired let go and poor.

The Iraq and Afghanistan Soldiers  
and Veterans are another  
"Greatest Generation" who do  
what they are told to do by the Few  
but it looks like they will be poor  
anyway because that is the way  
America wants them to be.

A Few people have all the money  
and the rest of the Citizens are poor.

So I have taken on the job of  
convincing our new "Greatest Generation"

that when the Wars are over,  
they will be tossed aside like  
used toilet paper and their reward  
will be to work hard at slave Worker  
wages to raise their "War Babies."

The government blindfolds them  
now with yellow ribbons,  
parades with all the trimmings  
all the welcome backs

and elaborate funerals to assure  
them that their Country really  
appreciates them for fighting  
and dying for the Idea of America.

The greatest fear that the Few have  
who own all the wealth have  
is giving guns and ammo to the poor  
people like our Iraq and Afghanistan  
Soldiers.

I mean, gee whizz Uncle Sam Few,  
you really do fear that after you  
keep stepping on their poor Mothers  
and Fathers, Aunts and Uncles,  
Brothers and Sisters

Cousins and Neighbors  
and Friends that the Soldiers  
just might get together  
and march on Washington

DC and NY City  
to eliminate the Few.

### **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.

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

***Tiananmen Square:***  
***April 21, 1989: Honorable Anniversary***  
**Pissed Off People Rise Up Against A**  
**Corrupt Government Of Tyrants,**  
**Exploiters And Oppressors**



Six days after the death of Hu Yaobang, the deposed reform-minded leader of the Chinese Communist Party, some 100,000 students from more than 40 universities gathered at Beijing's Tiananmen Square to commemorate Hu, voice their discontent with China's authoritative communist government, and call for greater democracy.

**Ignoring government warnings of violent suppression of any mass demonstration, the students were joined by workers, intellectuals, and civil servants.**

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## **DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK**



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## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

### **Thieving Zionist Settlers Steal Fertile Palestinian Land, Literally**

18-4-2015 PIC

**SALFIT -- Settlers from Leshem settlement to the west of Salfit leveled Palestinian lands and stole its fertile soil, eyewitnesses revealed on Saturday.**

**The eyewitnesses said Israeli bulldozers leveled the lands and gathered fertile soil in piles to be used later for construction and gardening in the settlement.**

The Palestinian researcher Khaled Maali pointed out that the settlers are gathering the best soil which is red and brown in color.

Maali said the stolen soil is going to be used for paving main roads which are being opened in Leshem outpost at the expense of the lands of four Palestinian towns in Salfit.

He highlighted that such Israeli practices run contrary to the international law as well as the Fourth Geneva Convention which does not permit stealing or changing the landmarks of occupied lands, constructing over it or confiscating its stones and soil.

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## **Other Thieving Zionists Steal Palestinian Store Equipment Near Occupied Jerusalem: Pretend “Construction Material And Work Equipment ‘Illegal’”**

April 14, 2015 by IMEMC News & Agencies

Israeli authorities, Monday, seized the content of a Palestinian-owned store in the village of Hazma, northeast of Jerusalem, according to local sources.

Witnesses at the scene told Wafa correspondence an Israeli police force broke into the village and searched the store before seizing its content, mostly consisting of construction material and work equipment, pretending that the content was “illegal”.

Earlier, the Israeli authorities demolished a number of private-owned barracks in the village, under the pretext they were close to the Israeli segregation barrier.

Israel rarely issues construction permits for Palestinians living in Area C, under Israeli civil and military control, prompting many Palestinians to construct without obtaining the necessary permit.

From 2006 through May 2014, Israel demolished at least 752 Palestinian residential units in the West Bank (East Jerusalem excluded), causing 3,568 people, including at least 1,712 minors, to lose their homes, according to the Israeli human rights group, B'Tselem.

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# **Occupation Troops Attack Unarmed Palestinian Demonstrators Before They Start Demonstration: Soldiers And Border Police Fired Rubber-Coated Steel Bullets And Live Ammunition; Five Shot In Kafr Qaddum**



Israeli forces arresting an unconscious man

17th April 2015 International Solidarity Movement, Huwwara Team

Kafr Qaddum, Occupied Palestine

This week's Friday demonstration in Kafr Qaddum followed the same violent pattern as the previous ones during the past weeks.

**The Israeli occupation forces began their shooting before the demonstration even started.**

**Soldiers and border police fired tear gas, stun grenades, rubber-coated steel bullets and live ammunition at the protestors. Hammam Khalid Aqil, age 19, was hit by two rubber-coated steel bullets, one in his leg and one in his head.**



He was badly injured and while he was still unconscious the Israeli army arrested him and took him to a hospital in Israel where he is now under intensive care. His condition is extremely serious, even so it took several hours before his parents were allowed to come and see him at the hospital.

The demonstration was slightly bigger than usual with between 150-200 villagers and activists participating. Because April 17th is Palestinian Prisoners Day many protestors were carrying pictures of family members and friends who are currently suffering in Israeli jails.

The occupation forces met the demonstration with terrifying brutality. They used the skunk-water truck to spray down not only protestors but family homes and gardens covering the village in a foul stink.

At least five more people were shot with rubber-coated steel bullets. Maamoun Shtaiwi, 36, and Anna Johnson, a 30 year old ISM volunteer, were both shot in the head and taken to the hospital in Nablus where they were treated for their wounds.

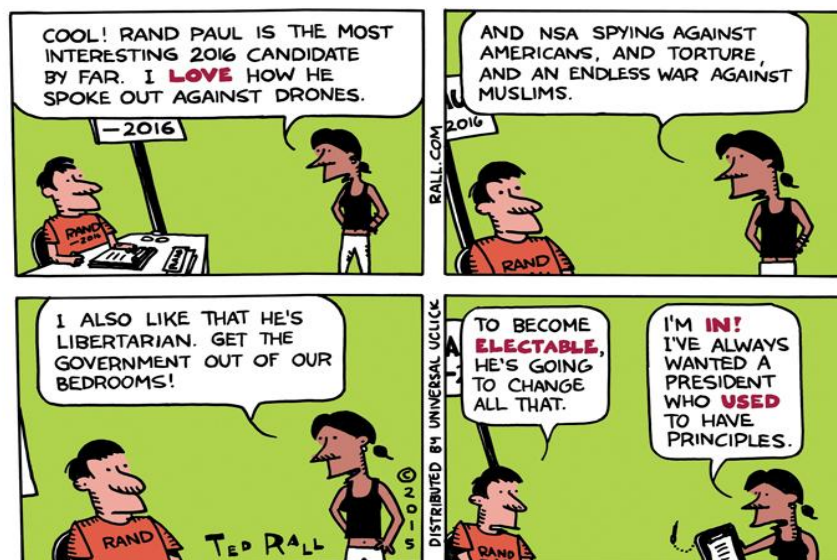
Maamoun's injury required 13 stitches. One Palestinian activist was hit in the leg, and one in the chest, and an Israeli photographer had the camera on his helmet smashed.

To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:

<http://www.maannews.net/eng/Default.aspx> and  
<http://www.palestinemonitor.org/list.php?id=ej898ra7yff0ukmf16>

The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



# VIETNAM GI: REPRINTS AVAILABLE

# Vietnam GI

January, 1969

Free to Servicemen

## "... he threw his rifle at his Commanding Officer..."



### WHEN HAWKS RETIRE

All of us who've had our "first" trips to Sunny Nam and South Korea shouldn't feel guilty about accepting such "gifts" from the Government. Lots of hawk politicians are taking Government trips too. Of course, their trips are a little bit different.

Like Senator Edward V. Long (D-La.), the Senate Judiciary Committee highest ranking retiree in January was speeded up by graft scandals. The good Senator decided that as a last sacrifice to his country he would give himself TDY to Europe. The cruise was to "get firsthand information on foreign aid and military assistance programs." Doubtless, that's why he took his wife along.

Of special interest was his visit to

Switzerland, which neither gets US aid nor wants any. It doesn't easily make any difference, since as soon as Senator Long returned from his "fact-finding mission" he retired from the Senate, thus depriving our Congress of all his "facts" (mostly on airplanes and ritzy hotels).

Going to and from Europe Long traveled on Senate funds, but while on TDY there, he economized by using US military aircraft, cars and chauffeurs to get around. The Pentagon ordered the red carpet rolled out around the world. Nothing too good for a retiring hawk politician. As the saying goes, in America we're all equal — only some are more equal than others!

As we go to press we learn that the government has finally agreed on the shape of the table and seating arrangements for the Paris talks. Now that everyone is seated and comfortable, maybe we can expect further "breakthroughs."

The grim fact is that while the government honores are living in Paris, thousands of our buddies are still dying in Nam. In fact, since they began talking last May, 3,000 GIs have been killed in action.

Talks or no talks, the only solution is to get the hell out of Nam, immediately. Stop talking and start shipping us home.

The next issue of VGI will discuss the Paris talks in greater detail. By that

Below is an interview with a Marine who didn't like the war and figured out why. This guy is a Platoon SGT with five years in the Green Machine, and over a year in Nam, mostly in long range recon with Charlie Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, VGI spoke to him while he was on leave awaiting his second Nam tour. Since he doesn't ETS until 1973 we've left out his name.

VGI: How do you feel about the war when you went over there. Did your feelings change?

A: When I first went over there, I thought it would be a great thing in pay, and a great new experience of being in war. I really thought it was going to be something different. But then I got put on some of those patrols and I got to see the people and got to talk to the people. That was the big thing that finally changed me. I finally saw that it wasn't worth while, and that they actually don't want our help because it actually isn't help.

VGI: Did you have any contact with the Vietnamese, with the people?

A: There was a place called Ben Son and for a while I was stationed down at the bridge there. This is where I lived, ate, slept, drank, everything. There were houses right next to my bunker, we had an address for OPs and we gave everybody else addresses. We explained to the people what the addresses were and they got all shook up about the whole thing, wow, they got addresses too.

VGI: What was it like, being down?

A: We lived with them, we shared our food with them. They used to really go for the little treats in the canteen packs, the gum and the canteen capsules and everything, and in fact they'd bring back bananas. There was this one girl, her name was—I can't think of her name now—I had her picture but I lost it. This one girl, she really stands out in my mind because she used to come over and bring us beer every day and in turn, all she expected from us was the empty boxes of canteens, that's all she wanted, the empty boxes. But then we started putting little things in the empty boxes and told her we wanted her to have them.

VGI: What would she want with the empty boxes?

A: I don't know, the Vietnamese people, they could take an empty box of nothing and make something out of it. She made me a sashet which she had made out of a c-ration tin. She had decorated it out with a nail and a hammer. It had a little bow-tie on it and I wore it all the time. I actually got to feel naked after I lost it.

But yet, later on, during the Tet holidays, the Viet Cong came in and burned out half of the village, and the marines naturally went in pursuit. In order to stop them, the VC took this shit and they cut off her breasts. She was brought up to the hospital and lost the tits.

VGI: Did the brass give you any stank about being with the Vietnamese?

A: The incident when I almost got into trouble was, there was a convoy of about 12 to 14 trucks. I think it was. We had a whole bunch of plywood on it and we took this plywood over to a village chief in Ben Son, he was one of

the older. We dropped off something like 14 sheets of plywood. Naturally, when we got back, there was one truckload of plywood missing, and they asked where it was. They later found out that I had given it to this village chief, not for my own good relations with him, but because there was times when we didn't get resupplied at our observation point, and they brought us food, so we gave them something else in return.

### interview

VGI: What are some of the things you saw and did that led you into deciding in the middle of Nam not to fight anymore?

A: Well, I saw times when COL Bill Fisher when he would tell his men to dismantle their personal-carrying flame-throwers, take them out on a company sleep and put them back together once they got out. He went into a village and told them, "Are there any Viet Cong here?" The village chief naturally said "No" because he knew that if he said yes, he didn't know what'd happen to him. Then COL Fisher said, "Well, if there is any Viet Cong in this village, we'll show you what's going to happen." He got one of his flunkies run up to the house, he didn't check to see if there was anybody in it or not. Later we found out there was a woman in there who was real ugly, she couldn't move or anything. She was burned to death. It was terrible. And seeing guys being carried in on ponches. A full-grown man weighed about two pounds after he was brought in as a rack of raw flesh or something like that.

VGI: Did you see any other incidents like this?

A: There was this little village just out of Ben Son where we brought out one and got out late. It's not pretty, it's really true. It was just this small village, maybe 15 or 17 houses. It was a "gray to white" village, all and on there'd be Viet Cong walking the area. No hostilities at all, they'd just go in there to be resupplied. Yet one day, they found out that VC were coming into that village and they called "Pull", "Pull" came over and leveled the whole village down. I think maybe three people lived out of the whole thing. One was a little baby about two years old whose mother and father was gone.

One of the guys out of a school, the kid, this little two year old. He took this kid real close. When we went in R and R we brought him back toys and trucks and things like that. It was really something, because they don't get too many trucks over there. We'd round up a few dump trucks and stuff like that from Hong Kong. They were really surprised to see the new toys. I mean, the toys they play with, old canteen cans and stuff like that go thing toys. They're a fascinating people. If you just have an opportunity to see them, to get to know them. They're really great.

VGI: How do you think they feel about us?

A: This one incident—I know of the letter one north Vietnamese who was down south wrote to his brother up north who was intent on coming down

Continued on page 8

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command.

The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

Military Resistance has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

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