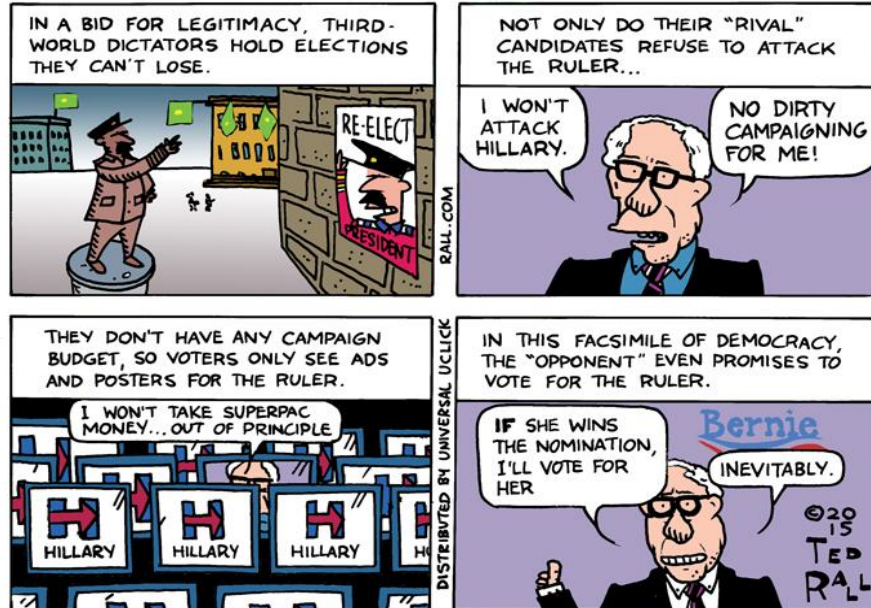


Military Resistance 13F7



“It’s A Global Fight”
Taxi Drivers Block Paris Roads
To Stop Uber Cutthroats Taking
Their Livelihoods:
“Drivers From Several Countries
Joined Them On Paris Streets To
Show Solidarity Against Uber”
“Taxi Drivers Hurl Stones At Riot
Police” And Were “Hitting Uber
Vehicles With Metal Bats”

“In The 24 Years I’ve Been A Cab Driver, My Future Has Never Been In So Much Danger”



Thursday's demonstrations by French taxi drivers snarled traffic around Paris and forced some travelers to walk to the Charles de Gaulle airport. Photo: IAN LANGSDON/EUROPEAN PRESSPHOTO AGENCY

June 25, 2015 By Matthias Verbergt and Sam Schechner, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]. Inti Landauro and William Horobin contributed to this article.

PARIS—Black smoke rose from piles of burning tires at Porte Maillot, one of the main gateways to the French capital. As taxi drivers hurled stones at riot police, one screamed his demand: “Uber, go home!”

The war between taxis and Uber Technologies Inc.'s car service spilled into streets across France on Thursday, as thousands of drivers snarled traffic around the French capital and other cities. They blocked access to both of the main Parisian airports and to train stations.

Altercations broke out between Uber operators and taxi drivers.

“I’m safer in Baghdad,” singer Courtney Love wrote on Twitter, claiming that taxi drivers ambushed her car from Charles de Gaulle Airport and were hitting vehicles with metal bats. Ms. Love said she escaped on the back of a motorcycle taxi, as drivers threw stones.

The mounting violence raises pressure on the French government to accelerate a crackdown on Uber in one of the company's largest European markets. Taxi drivers are demanding that the government move more quickly to block the company's Uberpop service, which uses drivers without professional licenses. Taxi drivers say that is unfair competition.

"In the 24 years I've been a cab driver, my future has never been in so much danger," said Ahmed Elmoatamid, a 62-year-old Parisian taxi driver who joined a protest at Gare du Nord, one of Europe's busiest train stations, after ending his night shift.

French President François Hollande sharply criticized the protests.

"There is violence that is unacceptable in a democracy, unacceptable in a country like France," Mr. Hollande said in the early hours of Friday morning after a meeting of EU leaders in Brussels. "The violence is intolerable not only for the victims, but also for the image of our country."

Still, Mr. Hollande said he understood the exasperation of France's taxi drivers faced with what he described as unfair competition.

French officials responded to Thursday's unrest by promising tougher enforcement of a law passed last year that makes operating a system like Uberpop punishable with a fine of as much as €300,000 (\$336,000) and two years in prison. The law also makes drivers without professional licenses liable for fines.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said Thursday he had asked police chiefs to issue decrees banning the service. He also asked prosecutors to begin investigating Uber.

But it is unlikely either move will have any immediate effect.

A spokeswoman for the Paris prosecutor's office said a probe of Uber, which began this spring, is still under way. And the company has said it wouldn't stop offering Uberpop until a court orders it to do so.

"Uberpop is illegal," Mr. Cazeneuve said, but he said that the service "can only be banned after a court decision."

"The government is just trying to make noise to calm down the taxis," said Pierre-Dimitri Gore-Coty, Uber's head of Western Europe. "They are trying to calm things down by saying Uberpop is illegal, but no court has decided that."

So far, the French crackdown has centered on Uberpop drivers. The French Interior Ministry said police have opened cases against 420 drivers, something that can lead to fines or impounding of vehicles. Mr. Cazeneuve said Thursday he will instruct police to impound vehicles every time an Uberpop driver is caught in the act.

Taxi drivers are unsatisfied however. "We are fed up with it," said Salahyidin Dahaoui, the president of Collectif des Taxis Parisiens, a union of cab drivers. "Why isn't the government enforcing the law? In this country, it's apparently possible not to respect the rule of law."

In recent weeks, there were several allegations of violence by taxi drivers against both Uberpop drivers and users in several French cities where Uberpop is available. "Last month, I was tracked down by taxi drivers," said a Lyon-based Uberpop driver, who claims they kicked off his rearview mirrors.

"We obviously condemn every act of aggression," said Jean-Michel Rebours, president of the Defense Union of Parisian Taxis. "But you have to understand where it comes from. We're constantly being cold-shouldered."

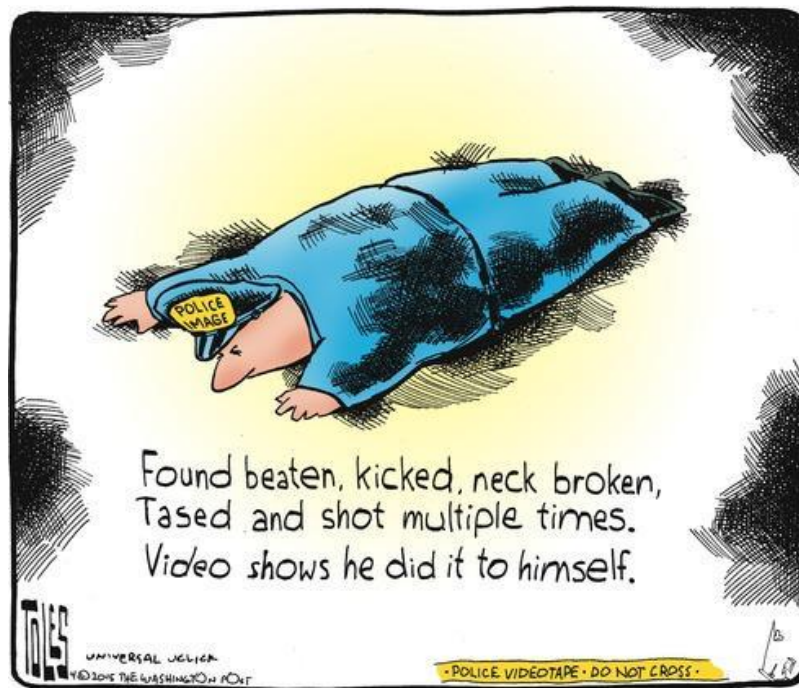
French taxi drivers weren't alone in their protests on Thursday. Drivers from several countries joined them on Paris streets to show solidarity against Uber.

Nuria Navarrete, 35, drove from Spain in her taxi, which displayed a sign that read, "Je suis taxi." She said the protests will go on "as long as it's necessary." "We've managed to stop Uber in Barcelona, and now we're going to do the same thing in the rest of Europe," she said.

Brian Ghairbhain, a driver of a London black cab, also drove to Paris for Thursday's protest, snapping pictures as the tires burned near Porte Maillot.

"Uber hurts us, so we are going to make them suffer just as much," Mr. Ghairbhain said as he watched the mayhem. "It's a global fight."

POLICE WAR REPORTS



Los Angeles Police Shoot Unarmed Man In Head – And Then Handcuff Him

20 June 2015 by Joanna Walters, Guardian News and Media Limited & by Kate Mather, Richard Winton; LA Times

An unarmed man was shot in the head and critically wounded by Los Angeles police officers on Friday night, after he appeared to be flagging them down for assistance.

The man was standing on the side of the road, Smith said, when he called out to the officers: "Police, police."

A passerby recorded graphic video of the incident from a car, and then posted it on Twitter. The video showed officers turning over the man, who appeared to be unconscious and lying on his face, and handcuffing his hands behind his back as his head bled profusely.

The Los Angeles police department said the man, who was not immediately named, had a towel wrapped around his hand and the two officers believed he was concealing a weapon.

The man reportedly waved over the officers in their patrol car in the quiet Los Feliz area of LA, north-east of Hollywood, at about 6.30pm.

The officers got out of their vehicle and one ordered the man to “drop the gun”, LAPD lieutenant John Jenal told local television news on Friday night.

Jenal said the man “extended his arm towards the officers”. The man did not respond to the police order and he was shot, Jenal said.

According to the LA Times, officers later discovered the man was not carrying a weapon.

The man, who is believed to be Hispanic and in his forties, was taken to hospital. On Saturday afternoon, his condition was described as grave.

Witnesses said they heard three or four shots ring out during the confrontation.

The LAPD said on Saturday it was standard procedure to handcuff any suspect.

Cop Mocks Unarmed Man As He Dies From Police Bullet:

“Fuck Your Breath!”

“Deputy Claims He Accidentally Fired His Pistol Instead Of A Taser”

Police Sgt. Invents Stupid New Excuse For Murdering Unarmed Civilians: “Slip And Capture”

13 April 15 By Gillian Mohny, Vice News

“Fuck your breath!”

That's what an officer from the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office can be heard yelling in a video that shows a wounded suspect being pinned to the ground in an April 2 incident where a 73-year-old deputy claims he accidentally fired his pistol instead of a Taser.

The suspect, 44-year-old Eric Courtney Harris, later died as a result of his wounds.

Video of the incident was released Friday. Officials from the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office said at a press conference Friday that reserve deputy Robert Charles "Bob" Bates shot Harris after he mistook his gun for his Taser, according to the Tulsa World.

The video shows police chasing Harris and tackling him. Bates can be heard saying "Taser! Taser!" before shooting the gun. Bates then immediately dropped the gun and can be heard saying, "I shot him, I'm sorry."

Harris yells, "Oh shit, he shot me!" and tells the officers, "I'm losing my breath."

That's when an officer yells, "Fuck your breath!"

The other officers appear to make no attempt to treat Harris for the gunshot wound. They are shown holding Harris on the ground, handcuffing him, and telling him to "Shut the fuck up!"

Harris had been the target of an undercover sting by the Tulsa County Sheriff's Violent Crimes Task Force, and had been in prison before for assault and battery of an officer. Police were arresting Harris after he allegedly sold a gun to an undercover task force member.

According to the Tulsa World, Tulsa Police Sgt. Jim Clark described Bates' actions as being the result of a phenomenon called "slip and capture," where a person's behavior — in this case Bates' intention to use a Taser — can "slip" off their intended path in a tense situation and be "captured" by a stronger response.

According to Clark, police thought Harris fled with a gun and then struggled with deputies as he was being held on the ground.

"He was absolutely a threat when going down" since he had not been searched yet, Clark said, according to Tulsa World. Harris was later found to be unarmed.

Tulsa County Sheriff's Capt. Billy McKelvey said that the other arresting officers did not realize that Harris had been shot, and that they gave him first aid and called paramedics when they realized the extent of his injuries.

Clark said at the press conference that Bates had not committed a crime or any policy violations. Tulsa County Sheriff's spokesman Maj. Shannon Clark told VICE News that the agency plans to voluntarily hand over the findings of their entire investigation to the FBI tomorrow for review.

Enemy Combatant Shoots 4-Year-Old Girl While Trying To Kill Her Dog For No Reason At All: Lying Piece Of Shit Says "When He Got Close To The Doorway, A Dog Charged At Him"

"The Family Owns Two Dogs That Can't Get Out Of The House Because They Wear Shock Collars"

20 Jun 2015 by Bethania Palma Markus, Raw Story & By Henri Gendreau,

A police officer in Ohio was trying to shoot a family dog that was charging toward him, but missed and hit a 4-year-old girl instead, the Columbus Dispatch reports.

A neighbor and the girl's uncle identified her as Ava Ellis, who was taken to Nationwide Children's Hospital, where police said she was in stable condition.

The officer, who was not named, was following up on a hit-and-run case when he was flagged down by a woman who said her sister had cut herself.

"He went to see what was going on, and when he got close to the doorway, a dog charged at him," police spokeswoman Denise Alex-Bouzounis told the Columbus

Dispatch. "He fired a shot to hold the dog back, missed the dog and accidentally struck the 4 year old in the leg."

The incident happened in Whitehall, a small city just outside Columbus.

The woman he went to check on, Andrea Ellis, was taken to the hospital as well for the cut.

Neighbors told the Dispatch the family owns two dogs that can't get out of the house because they wear shock collars.

Another Day Another Unarmed Black Man Commits Suicide By Waistband; Killed By Oklahoma Police; "His Hand Was Near His Waistband"

12 April 15 By Tom McCarthy, Guardian UK

Police in Oklahoma said they do not intend to further investigate an incident in which a volunteer, undercover 73-year-old "reserve deputy" mistook his gun for a Taser and shot and killed a suspect who was wrestling on the ground with a sheriff's deputy, according to a police account.

The reserve deputy, Bob Bates, an insurance executive, told police he thought he was firing his Taser at the suspect, Eric Courtney Harris, 44.

"It was me," Bates said in an interview on Friday with the Tulsa World. "My attorney has advised me not to comment. As much as I would like to, I can't."

Bates did not reply to an emailed request for comment on Sunday, and calls to his workplace were not returned. A call to the supervisor of the Tulsa County reserve deputy program, Tulsa County sergeant Paula Hite, was not returned.

The Tulsa paper quoted homicide sergeant Dave Walker as saying on Friday that police "would not investigate the death unless the sheriff's office asked them to".

"And they have not asked us to," Walker told the World.

The shooting occurred after Harris, a convicted felon, sold ammunition and at least one gun to undercover officers, according to a police report. The report said officers had previously bought methamphetamine from Harris.

After the gun transaction, officers attempted to place Harris under arrest, the police report said, but he ran away.

A deputy got into a struggle with Harris that “went to the ground”, the report said.

It said “his hand was near his waistband”.

[See next story: “Bizarre Urge Among Young, Unarmed Black Men To Provoke Their Own Murder By ‘Reaching For Their Waistbands’”]

“During the rapidly evolving altercation, the reserve deputy had what he believed was his Taser from his tactical carrier and attempted to render aid in subduing the suspect,” the report continued.

“Initial reports have determined that the reserve deputy was attempting to use less lethal force, believing he was utilizing a Taser, when he inadvertently discharged his service weapon, firing one round which struck Harris.”

Harris was taken to a hospital, where he died, the report said.

Bates was reserve deputy of the year in 2011, according to the county sheriff’s website. The reserve deputy program provides “trained civilian volunteers to augment the manpower” of the sheriff’s office, according to the site. Tulsa County has 130 reserve deputies, according to local Fox News.

Tulsa is a city of about 400,000 people in the northeast corner of the state.

MORE:

There Is A Bizarre Urge Among Young, Unarmed Black Men To Provoke Their Own Murder By ‘Reaching For Their Waistbands’” “If Police Accounts Are To Be Believed, This Compulsion Only Exists Among Young Black Men”

November 28-30, 2014 by JOHN ESKOW, CounterPunch

If police accounts are to be believed, there is a bizarre urge among young, unarmed black men to provoke their own murder by “reaching for their waistbands” when cops are aiming service revolvers at them.

Just this week we heard Officer Darren Wilson claim that one of the reasons he killed Michael Brown was that the young man “reached for his waistband,” and – in what I guess was just an incredibly weird coincidence – we heard Cleveland police claim they killed a 12-year-old kid with a toy gun because he also “reached for his waistband.”

But this odd compulsion is not a new one.

In 2011, fully half of all the young black men shot by LA cops were cut down because—again, if police accounts are to be believed – they too were “reaching for their waistbands.”

The epidemic also spread to Houston, where multiple police accounts cite the same excuse.

Oscar Grant, the young man killed by Oakland cops on a subway platform – and the subject of the movie “Fruitvale Station”—was shot for the exact same reason.

If police accounts are to be believed, this compulsion only exists among young black men.

I have been approached by angry or frustrated cops several times in my life – twice as an angry young protestor, eager to defy them – and have never felt even the slightest urge to reach for my waistband.

Maybe white skin contains a protein that protects against this terrible compulsion?

And exactly what is it that these dead young men were hoping to find in those waistbands?

Given the Cosby-condemned fashion of wearing saggy jeans, these kids have to reach pretty far down to reach their waistbands--a posture which would leave them completely defenseless against an armed cop.

What a powerful compulsion this must be!

I’ve spent a good amount of time on police ridearounds in New Orleans. If you want to see young black men, New Orleans at 3 AM is a good place to do so.

I remember one night as my cop hosts were rolling up slowly on a kid they suspected of a robbery: no shirt, Saints cap, saggy jeans exposing his boxer shorts. The kid sauntered on with an exaggerated cool: he knew the cops were watching him, and the cops knew that he knew. One of the cops poked my elbow, chuckled, and said: “Watch this. That kid’s gonna break.” “When?” I asked. “The second he reaches down to hitch up his drawers.” As I watched, another cop counted down: “Three seconds to draw—hitchin’. Two...one...”

At just that second, the kid reached down, hitched up his drawas, and “broke”—took off sprinting down an alley. They pursued him for a while, then lost interest.

It was the only time I ever saw any gesture that was even vaguely waistband-related, and the kid only did it so that he could run without being tripped by his low-slung Levis.

Two weeks later, one of the cops in that squad car – a funny guy, a seemingly decent guy, you would've liked him – was briefly suspended, pending the investigation of an "incident" in which he shot and killed a young black man in the black man's own back yard.

The kid had reached for his waistband, if police accounts are to be believed.

My old squad-car host was cleared in a few days and returned to duty.

This has gone on far too long.

I am going to take my own mixed-race son to a neurologist today, if not sooner, to have him checked for traces of this horrible Waistband-Reaching Syndrome. I'm concerned that, one day, it could get him killed...

...if police accounts are to be believed.

**Three Deputies Covered Up
Brutality Inflicted By Sheriff's
Son:
He "Repeatedly Beat A Restrained
Suspect In The Eye With A Metal
Flashlight"
"Parrish And His Wife Filed A
Complaint At The Sheriff's Office A
Few Days Later"
"Parrish Was Charged Several Hours
Later With Obstructing An Officer And
Attempting To Remove A Deputy's
Firearm"**

June 13, 2015 Andrew Emmett, NationofChange

Three sheriff's deputies were convicted this week of obstructing justice by covering up an incident in which a fellow officer repeatedly beat a restrained suspect in the eye with a metal flashlight.

Due to the fact that the officer is also the son of a local sheriff, the deputies filed false police reports to conceal his actions and were caught lying to FBI agents. Although three deputies have been convicted of participating in the cover-up, the same federal jury in Georgia acquitted the sheriff's son of excessive force.

On the evening of September 15, 2012, Aaron Parrish was visiting the annual motorcycle rally at the Bainbridge BikeFest with his family when his stepfather got into a minor altercation with local police.

As Parrish approached the deputies, he was grabbed from behind and thrown to the ground.

Deputies placed Parrish in a chokehold as Grady County Deputy Wiley Griffin, IV—who is the son of Decatur County Sheriff Wiley Griffin, III—struck Parrish in the face multiple times with a metal flashlight.

According to Decatur County Captain Elizabeth Croley's incident report, Parrish struck her in the chest as officers were placing his stepfather in custody. Cpt. Croley claimed that Deputy Robert Wade Umbach, BikeFest security Macon Moore, and a citizen named Norma McIntyre witnessed Parrish strike her before deputies subdued him. Croley also reported that Parrish had attempted to grab Deputy Umbach's gun while restrained and their Tasers had no effect on him. Her report does not mention Deputy Griffin's name or his actions against Parrish.

Parrish's wife almost did not recognize her husband's bruised and bloodied face when she picked him up from the Sheriff's Office Command Center.

Parrish was not charged with a crime that night and was immediately released. But when Parrish and his wife filed a complaint at the sheriff's office a few days later, Parrish was charged several hours later with obstructing an officer and attempting to remove a deputy's firearm.

But one of Capt. Croley's witnesses submitted a written statement asserting that Parrish was not the individual who struck Croley in the chest.

The civilian witness identified a different individual as the person who hit Croley that night and also identified Deputy Griffin as the officer who battered Parrish's face.

By altering the civilian witness' statements, Croley falsified her police report to intentionally withhold exculpatory evidence from the District Attorney's Office.

Although Parrish was cleared in 2013 of attempting to grab Deputy Umbach's gun, the false evidence against him led to his conviction of obstructing an officer.

Later that year, the FBI began investigating the incident and interviewing the deputies involved. Deputies Christopher Kines and Umbach, who held Parrish down as Griffin beat him, lied to FBI agents by covering up Griffin's involvement and supporting Croley's false narrative.

On July 9, 2014, a grand jury charged deputies Umbach, Kines, and Capt. Croley with deprivation of rights under color of law, filing a false police report, and tampering with a witness.

Deputy Griffin was charged with violating Parrish's civil rights by using excessive force against him but was acquitted on Wednesday. Kines and Umbach were acquitted of obstructing justice by writing false police reports but were convicted of lying to the FBI. They each face maximum sentences of 20 years for making misleading statements to the FBI.

Croley was convicted of writing a false incident report and violating Parrish's constitutionally protected right to a fair trial by intentionally withholding evidence.

She faces a maximum sentence of 20 years for her false report and one year for the civil rights violation involving hiding exculpatory evidence.

On Thursday, Decatur County Sheriff Wiley Griffin confirmed that deputies Umbach, Kines, and Croley have been fired. Parrish has filed a civil lawsuit against the deputies and the county for violating his rights.

MILITARY NEWS

Discontent In Eastern Ukraine Leads To Rare Public Anti-War Protest: “Stop The War!” “Out With Everybody!” “That Referred To Both The Ukrainian And The Separatist Leadership”

June 16, 2015 By ANDREW E. KRAMERJ, New York Times

MOSCOW — Residents of two frequently shelled neighborhoods in Donetsk in eastern Ukraine staged a public antiwar protest on Monday, an exceedingly rare event in rebel-held territory.

The crowd of about 500 people briefly blocked the city's main thoroughfare, Artema Street, chanting, "Stop the war!" and "Out with everybody!"

That referred to both the Ukrainian and the separatist leadership. That the separatists, and not merely the Ukrainian Army, were publicly criticized made the rally all the more unusual.

The Ukrainian authorities have recently erected an economic blockade of the breakaway regions, hoping it would foster internal discord, though there had been few signs of any until now.

The protesters were not entirely unified in their demands. Some said they wanted the rebels to attack the Ukrainian Army, to push the front farther from their neighborhoods, while others demanded that the separatists remove artillery pieces from backyards and city streets, so as not to invite retaliatory strikes.

Some also demanded pension payments, which Kiev has suspended as part of the blockade.

The protesters came mainly from the Kievsky and October Market neighborhoods, where rebel units have mortar emplacements that draw return fire from the Ukrainian Army. Despite a cease-fire brokered in February, skirmishes are common.

The line of contact runs between these districts of Donetsk, controlled by Russian-backed rebels, and adjacent villages controlled by Ukrainian forces.

The separatist police turned out but allowed the protest to go ahead.

The Donetsk separatist leader, Aleksandr Zakharchenko, addressed the crowd to say his government was working to pay pensions more regularly. People shouted back that the fighting should stop or the separatist leadership should provide them with housing farther from the front, Novaya Gazeta, the independent Russian newspaper, reported. The crowd dispersed later Monday.

Though the war was ostensibly fought for their benefit, Russian-speaking residents of the breakaway east in Ukraine have borne the brunt of the violence and its economic fallout.

Russia and separatist leaders say the armed uprising was needed to protect Russian speakers in eastern Ukraine from a "neo-fascist" coup in the capital. But Ukrainian officials say Russia is backing the armed groups to prevent Kiev from joining NATO and the European Union, with locals paying the toll.

"The atmosphere is tense" in the increasingly impoverished city of Donetsk, Enrique Menedez, a volunteer with a nongovernmental group, said in a telephone interview. "There is no stable peace, and no war."

Those hoping that Russia will quickly annex the two breakaway regions are growing frustrated, he said. "Patience is running out."

In fighting on Monday, two Ukrainian soldiers were killed and 20 were wounded, according to the Ukrainian military. "The situation in the conflict zone is deteriorating," a military spokesman, Andriy Lysenko, said at a briefing in Kiev.

Since the war broke out in April 2014, fighting has killed at least 6,350 people, wounded 15,775 and displaced about two million, the United Nations says.

**Even Assad's Supporters Are
Baulking Now:
"The Situation Seems To Be Going
From Bad To Worse For The
Regime"
"Recent Losses Have Come Where It
Hurts Most: Its Support Base"
"Refusal To Join The Army Is Part Of A
Wider Trend – Even Within The Alawite
Community"**

June 15, 2015 by Hassan Hassan, thenational.ae. Hassan Hassan is associate fellow at Chatham House's Middle East and North Africa Programme, non-resident fellow at the Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy and co-author of ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror

The string of military gains by the anti-government forces in Syria since mid-December continues to reveal the Assad regime's profound weaknesses.

The problem for the regime is not that it has lost a series of well-fortified garrisons but that each defeat was swift, taking anywhere between just a few hours and a couple of days.

The fall of Idlib province last month and the rebel takeover of the key Brigade 52 base in Deraa in southwestern Syria last week have revealed the military's fragility.

The Brigade 52 takeover was particularly telling because the attackers were nationalist forces, not radical groups such as Jabhat Al Nusra or ISIL, which usually overcome army defences by means of squads of suicide bombers.

The rebels' advances in Hama and Idlib and especially the seizure of Jisr Al Shughour city in Idlib province on April 25 are very significant. They leave the regime's Alawite heartlands in the coastal region exposed to the rebel onslaught for the first time since the start of the conflict.

Unsurprisingly, the regime has downplayed the significance of some of these gains, while Iranian general Qassem Suleimani vowed an imminent "surprise" in Syria two weeks ago. But the situation seems to be going from bad to worse for the regime. Recent losses have come where it hurts most: its support base.

Since the conflict began, Bashar Al Assad astutely ensured that Syria's religious minorities remained loyal.

But with the regime's consistent and significant losses, protests from sections of these minorities are becoming hard to overlook or downplay.

One example of this dissatisfaction is the continuing tensions between the regime and the Druze minority in Sweida in the south-west over conscription. For months, the Druze in the city have been vocal about arrests of their religious leaders by the regime. They have also protested against the regime's refusal to provide heavy weapons to local militias to defend the area against extremists' attacks.

This criticism peaked on Sunday when Druze leaders resisted attempts by officials to force them to encourage youngsters to join the military.

Sheikh Abu Fahad Wahid Balous, a Druze leader who has previously denounced the regime, defied Mr Al Assad's appeal for young people in Sweida to join the army.

The decree stipulates that people from Sweida will serve in their own area and will not have to fight in other provinces, a remarkable concession after months of strained relations over the issue. But Sheikh Balous still said that the Druze did not have to comply and warned against taking youngsters from their homes or at checkpoints by force.

The escalating tensions follow anger over previously broken promises that Druze youngsters would not be dispatched to fight outside their areas. Many of them were taken to Brigade 52 and there was more Druze consternation still when the army withdrew from there and into Sweida. The army subsequently refused to maintain heavy weaponry inside the province despite requests from local leaders. The killing of more than 20 Druze civilians in Idlib by Jabhat Al Nusra made the supply of better weapons especially relevant.

The refusal to join the army is part of a wider trend – even within the Alawite community.

Reports consistently indicate that Alawite families are encouraging their children to leave home if they are of conscription age.

This was especially obvious as the rebels edged closer to Alawite heartlands in Hama.

Multiple sources report that Alawite representatives from several towns in the Ghab plain in Hama have reached out to the rebels and claimed that they are not tied to the regime.

An Alawite barber in Abu Dhabi recently spoke of how his brother in Syria has been living away from his family to avoid conscription and that the family is trying to find a way for him to leave the country.

An officer in the mukhabarat department, which monitors army officers, relates how the “mutiny” reached an “alarming level” after the fall of Jisr Al Shughour.

The trend compounds the challenges for the regime as the army is losing territory in much of the country – in Hasaka and Deir Ezzor to ISIL; in Idlib and Aleppo to extremist groups such as Jabhat Al Nusra, and in Deraa and Damascus to nationalist forces.

These military setbacks reverberate inside the regime’s well-protected heartlands, while all three types of anti-government forces seem to be getting stronger and more organised.

Meanwhile, Mr Al Assad’s support base outside Damascus is becoming increasingly vocal that the price of war is too high and that they cannot afford to continue to pay it.

ISIS Winning Hearts And Minds In Iraq: “They Got Rid Of The Tyranny Of The Arab Rulers” “Offering Reliable, If Harsh, Security; Providing Jobs In Decimated Economies; And Projecting A Rare Sense Of Order In A Region Overwhelmed By Conflict”

JUNE 16, 2015 By BEN HUBBARD, New York Times [Excerpts]

ERBIL, Iraq —

In northern Syria, the jihadists of the Islamic State have fixed power lines, dug sewage systems and painted sidewalks.

In Raqqa, they search markets and slaughterhouses for expired food and sick animals. Farther south, in Deir al-Zour, they have imposed taxes on farmers and shopkeepers and fined men for wearing short beards.

The group runs regular buses across the border with Iraq to Mosul, where it publicly kills captives and trains children for guerrilla war.

Last month, it reopened a luxury hotel in the city and offered three free nights to newlyweds, meals included.

A year after the Islamic State seized Mosul, and 10 months after the United States and its allies began a campaign of airstrikes against it, the jihadist group continues to dig in, stitching itself deeper into the fabric of the communities it controls.

In vast areas of Syria and Iraq with shattered ties to national governments, the jihadists have worked to fill the void, according to interviews with residents from areas in Syria and Iraq ruled by the Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL.

The group is offering reliable, if harsh, security; providing jobs in decimated economies; and projecting a rare sense of order in a region overwhelmed by conflict.

With no political solutions in sight for the wars that have allowed the group to thrive, little has prevented the jihadists from deepening their roots in ways that will make them even harder to dislodge.

“As a way of life, people got used to it,” said a laborer from Raqqa who had earned good money painting the group’s new offices in the city.

If you followed the rules, the jihadists left you alone, he said, although he wished life were more peaceful.

“It is not our life, all the violence and fighting and death,” he said, speaking on the condition of anonymity, like others from areas run by the Islamic State, so as not to anger the jihadists.

“But they got rid of the tyranny of the Arab rulers.”

In the process, the Islamic State’s administration has ballooned.

The group has issued declarations banning dynamite fishing and Apple products, pressuring teachers to work in its schools, offering rewards for the killing of Jordanian fighter pilots and advising wounded residents not to travel to Turkey for prosthetic limbs because the Islamic State now makes them at home, according to jihadist documents compiled by Aymenn Jawad Al-Tamimi, a fellow at the Middle East Forum.

The Islamic State's territory now stretches across hundreds of miles, from the outskirts of Aleppo in Syria into central Iraq, where it shares a volatile border with the Kurds in the north and approaches Baghdad in the south.

Much of that area is sparsely populated desert, but the group has millions of people under its charge, as well as archaeological sites, a hydroelectric dam and oil fields that help finance its operations.

The Islamic State differs from jihadist groups like Al Qaeda in its drive to establish a Sunni Muslim state governed by an extreme version of Islam.

Its method of seizing territory seeks to lay the groundwork for this by prompting a "geographic cleansing," according to Hassan Abu Hanieh, a Jordanian expert on Islamist groups. Enemies — like government soldiers, the police and those who do not fit in, such as minorities or elites — flee or are killed. What remains are mostly Sunni Arabs who try to continue their lives with little disruption.

The Islamic State works to co-opt them through the "management of chaos," providing services otherwise lacking in wartime, Mr. Abu Hanieh said.

"People may not be with the organization's ideology, but the group has been able to give some stability, punish thieves and put in place a legal system," he said. "In general, the normal people want no more than that."

Many residents have become dependent on the Islamic State's services, Mr. Tamimi said.

"The end effect of this is that the Islamic State entrenches itself and becomes very difficult to get rid of," he said. "Are you going to bomb the schools in the towns they run and deny the people access to any education whatsoever?"

One former real estate agent said that even though he hated the jihadists, he had managed to survive the changes in Raqqa. He tore the stereo out of his car so the jihadists could not accuse him of listening to forbidden music, but he still does so at home, quietly. He buys cigarettes from smugglers who sell only to people they know, since jihadists punish smoking as a crime.

"This is like heroin for them," the real estate agent said, enjoying a pack during a recent trip to Turkey.

He does not criticize the jihadists at home for fear that his 8-year-old son will repeat what he says in public, endangering the family. But his son hears things elsewhere, he said, "and now sometimes I hear him defending ISIS."

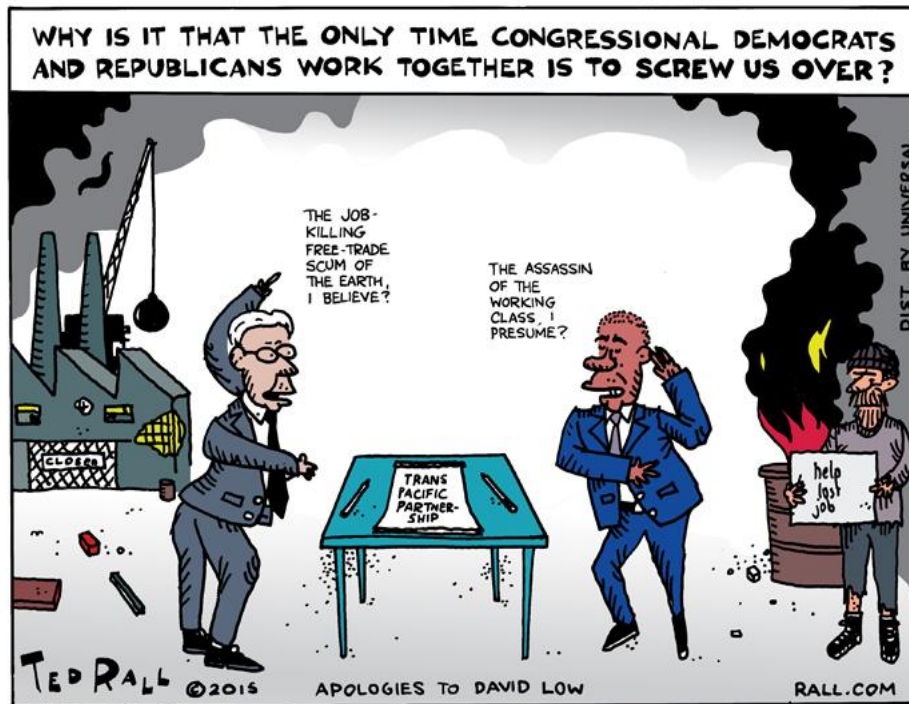
Some adults said living under the Islamic State had changed their views.

"If you had asked me before the revolution, I would have said I wanted to be the richest person, with houses and cars," another Raqqa resident said.

"But after we sat with their religious teachers, we changed our way of thinking."

He was considering whether to join the group, he said, and knew he would marry and raise his children in Raqqa so they could learn “the true religion.”

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Zionists Burn Palestinian Farms Near Occupied Ramallah:
“Palestinian Owners Of The Burned Lands Were About To Harvest Their Crops Of Wheat”**

24-6-2015 PIC

RAMALLAH –

A group of extremist settlers set fire to large areas of Palestinian agricultural lands in Taiba town near Ramallah on Wednesday morning, local sources revealed.

The sources pointed out that fanatic settlers torched dozens of dunums of Palestinian lands planted with wheat, causing great damage.

The settlers came from the nearby Jewish Rimonim outpost constructed on Palestinian lands in Taiba, the sources noted.

The Palestinian owners of the burned lands were about to harvest their crops of wheat before being burnt by the fanatic settlers, the sources underlined.



Occupation Forces Opens Fire On Unarmed Farmers Inside Free Palestine

June 23, 2015 by IMEMC & Agencies

Israeli soldiers, stationed across the border fence, opened fire, Tuesday, on Palestinian farmers in their own lands, east of Khan Younis, in the southern part of the Gaza Strip.

Media sources in Khan Younis said the soldiers, stationed on military towers across the border fence, fired several rounds of live ammunition at the farmers, and at a few homes, east of Khuza'a town.

The farmers had to leave their lands fearing additional Israeli military escalation; no injuries were reported.

On Monday evening, two Palestinians were injured after the soldiers opened fire on residents, east of Khan Younis.

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



YOUR INVITATION:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL

If you wish to receive Military Resistance immediately and directly, send request to contact@militaryproject.org. There is no subscription charge. Same address to unsubscribe.

Vietnam GI: Reprints Available

Vietnam GI

January, 1969

Free to Servicemen

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



Below is an interview with a Marine who didn't like the war and figured out why. This guy is a Platoon SGT with the years in the Green Machine, and over a year in Nam, mostly in long range recon with Charlie Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, VSF, stuck to him while he was on leave visiting his second Nam tour. Since he doesn't ETS until 1972 we've let out his name.

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

A: When I first went over there, I thought it would be a great thing to do, 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 these patrols and I got to see the people and got to talk to the people. This 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 ours 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, now they got addresses now.

VGI: What was it like, living there?

A: We lived with them, we shared our food, we shared their. They used to walk go for the little treats in the cation packs, the gum and the cation cigarettes and everything, and in turn 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 the expected from us was the empty boxes of cations, 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 can of nothing and make something out of it. She made me a souvenir which she had made out of a cation tin. She had pounded it out with a nail and a hammer. It had a little Buddha 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 women naturally went in panic. In order to stop them, the VC took this girl and they cut off her breasts. She was brought up to the hospital and later she died.

VGI: Did the brass give you any slack 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 the 1st or 2nd Battalion of the 1st Airborne and we took this plywood over to a village chief in Ben Son. He was one of

the stinks. 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 no way we didn't get impeded 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 first 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 sent one of his flame men 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 sick, she couldn't move or anything. She was burned to death. It was terrible, and seeing guys being carried in in ponchos. A full-grown man weighed about two pounds after he was brought in as a sack of raw flesh or something like that.

VGI: Did you see any other incidents like that?

A: There was this little village just out of Ben Son where we brought out rice and got out rice. It's not poetry, it's really true. It was just this small village, maybe 16 or 17 houses. It was a "gray to white" village, and on there'd be Viet Cong waiting the area. No houses 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 sort of adopted this kid, this little two year old. He took the kid real close. When we went to K and K we brought him back toys and books 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 cation cans and stuff like that are their 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 in on coming down

Continued on page 8

WHEN HAWKS RETIRE

All of us who've had our "free" 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.

Take Senator Edward V. Long (D-Mo.), the Senate Judiciary Committee highest volume entrepreneur in January was speeded up by graft mandates. The good Senator decided that as a last sacrifice to his country he would give himself TDY to Europe. The reason was to "get forward 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 really make any difference, since as soon as Senator Long returned from his "beneficial mission" he returned from the Senate, thus depriving our Congress of all his "facts" (mostly on nightclubs and night hotels).

Going to and from Europe Long traveled on Senate funds, but while on TDY there, he accompanied 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 trade 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 hawks are flying in Paris, thousands of our buddies are still dying in Nam. In fact, since they began talking last May, 7,000 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 time, we'll have more news about the Paris talks and the situation in Vietnam.

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.

Free on request to active duty members of the armed forces.

Cost for others: \$15 if picked up in New York City. For mailing inside USA add \$5 for bubble bag and postage. For outside USA, include extra for mailing 2.5 pounds to wherever you are.

Checks, money orders payable to: The Military Project

Orders to:
Military Resistance
Box 126
2576 Broadway
New York, N.Y.
10025-5657

All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces organizing to resist today's Imperial wars.

Military Resistance www.militaryproject.org

*This is how Obama brings the troops home,
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.*



*Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members
www.militaryproject.org*

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?



CHANGE WE CAN BEREAVE IN

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

Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out
Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website
<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.

