

## **Military Resistance 13J5**



## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Georgia Servicemember Killed In Plane Crash In Afghanistan**



Kcey Ruiz

Oct. 3, 2015 WSB TV

KABUL, Afghanistan —

The Department of Defense has confirmed Airman First Class Kcey E. Ruiz, 21, of McDonough, Ga. was one of the six airmen killed in Afghanistan on October 2.

According to the D.O.D., the airmen died when the C-130J Super Hercules aircraft they were in crashed just after taking off at Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan.

Kcey Ruiz graduated from Dutchtown High School in Henry County in 2012. She enlisted in the U.S. Air Force shortly after graduating high school.

"She's just the type of person who always did the right thing," Kcey's father Michael Ruiz said. "She had a high level of integrity, and she was just good to people."

Federal investigators are still working to figure out why the C-130J went down.

"It's unbelievable, she was supposed to come home at the end of this month," Ruiz said.

The D.O.D. says Kcey Ruiz was stationed at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts along with Senior Airman Nathan Sartain, 29, of Pensacola, Florida.

Ruiz visited his daughter in Boston just before she left for Afghanistan in April.

"I didn't say goodbye, I didn't want to say goodbye," Ruiz said. "I just told her I would see her later and I never got that chance."

The other four airmen killed were Senior Airman Quinn Johnson-Harris, 21, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Staff Sgt. Ryan Hammond of Moundsville, West Virginia, Capt. Jordan Pierson, 28, of Abilene, Texas and Capt. Jonathan Golen, 33, of Camarillo, California.

Five civilian contractors and two Afghanistan civilians were also killed in this crash.

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## **Moundsville Native Ryan Hammond Killed In Afghanistan Crash; Marshall Countians Express Remorse, Disbelief At Loss**

October 3, 2015 By DREW PARKER Staff Writer , The Intelligencer / Wheeling News-Register

MOUNDSVILLE - He always smiled, and he always laughed. He brought pride to his friends and he made those around him better.

That's how Moundsville native Ryan Hammond was remembered by some of his closest friends Friday, the day they learned he had died in Afghanistan in a plane crash.

Hammond, 26, was one of six servicemen killed in the plane crash. Five civilians also died.

According to the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing of Bagram Airfield, the C-130J Super Hercules they were on crashed shortly after takeoff from Jalalabad Airfield in eastern Afghanistan.

The son of Dave and Kathy Hammond, Ryan Hammond lived in Texas with his wife, Holly. He was a 2007 graduate of John Marshall High School. According to Christie Robison, a teacher at Moundsville Middle School, staff found out about the accident, which occurred just after midnight Friday, prior to the school day at 7 a.m.

Robison, an instructor in the district for 37 years, taught Hammond in sixth grade at Washington Lands Elementary School. She said he enjoyed working for Wild Cat News, an extracurricular video program at the school.

"My reaction had many facets. It was disbelief, great sorrow and also great pride that he was serving his country," Robison said. "Ryan was a good, solid student. He was a fun, enjoyable kid."

Donnie Gilbert Sr., a Marshall County resident who knew Hammond as a child, said Hammond's death is a loss to the entire community.

"I've known Ryan since his freshman year of high school and the news was unbelievable," Gilbert said. "You wouldn't meet a nicer guy. When he was home from the service he always made a point to say hello"

Gilbert's son, Donnie Gilbert Jr., said the two were inseparable during high school and kept in touch weekly until his death.

"We played sports together and made sure we scheduled all our classes the same. His wife called me (Friday) morning right after it happened. I was shocked and devastated," Gilbert Jr. said. "He was fun and crazy. Anyone that knew Ryan had a good time around him; smiling and good times describe Ryan in a nutshell."

Gilbert Jr. added Hammond will always be remembered in the Moundsville community.

"He was not only a member of the military, but a compassionate, good man," Gilbert Jr. said. "His actions were for the country and our community. He's a local hero."

Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va. and a Glen Dale native, said Hammond's death is, "a devastating loss of West Virginia native Ryan Hammond is a stark reminder of the sacrifices our brave military men and women make to keep our country safe. I am heartbroken by this tragedy and offer my deepest sympathy and prayers to Ryan's family and to all of the families of those killed. Their bravery and service to this nation will not be forgotten." President Barack and Michelle Obama extended condolences to the American and Afghan families who lost relatives in the crash. In a statement, he said:

"As we mark this terrible loss of life, we are reminded of the sacrifice brave Americans and our Afghan partners make each and every day in the name of freedom and security."

The Associated Press reported that the Taliban claimed they shot the plane out of the sky, but the group is prone to exaggeration.

Wickman dismissed the claim, saying that "it is with high confidence that we can say it does not appear that enemy fire was involved."

Few other details were available and an investigation was underway, he added.

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## Fallen Airman, Graduate Honored At Pensacola High



Senior Airman Nathan Sartain. Photo: Special to the News Journal

October 5, 2015 by Marketta Davis, Pensacola News Journal

For the second time in less than two months, the community of Pensacola has lost one of its own.

Senior Airman Nathan Sartain, 29, was killed Oct. 2, when a C-130J crashed at Jalalabad Airfield in Afghanistan.

Sartain graduated from Pensacola High School in 2004. Principal David Williams, who was assistant principal at the time, said news of Sartain's death came as a terrible blow.

"You don't ever think it's going to happen that close and then it happens," Williams said. "Reality hits; we have someone that was part of our family that's been taken away."

Sartain was an honor student who stayed committed to the Air Force Junior ROTC program all four years of high school. News Journal archives showed he was a decorated member of the organization, having twice been named an outstanding cadet.

"I knew he was heavily involved in ROTC, and he told me his interest in joining and serving his country," said James Poindexter, 29, Sartain's former classmate. "When I saw the news on Facebook last week, I thought, it was only a short time ago that he started his journey."

Poindexter said Sartain planned a career in the military, and hearing he was killed in Afghanistan was a shock.

"He was outgoing, always laughed and joked... he was almost, like, the life of the party at times," Poindexter said. "When you were having a bad day, he'd always say something funny. He was a well liked."

Master Sgt. Jackie Carnley, an instructor in the ROTC program, said he had the privilege of working with Sartain for one year after joining the staff at PHS and remembered him as a talented student.

"He was an outstanding cadet," Carnley said. "He excelled in ROTC and went on to excel in the military." "He loved his country and being in ROTC," said Poindexter. "Seeing and talking to him about that, I knew if he had the opportunity that he'd make a good asset to the military. This community is going to miss a great guy, a guy who was funny, well liked, had lots of friends and loved his country."

Carnley watched as students rehearsed a ceremony honoring Sartain, to be held Tuesday at the school.

"You don't know," said Carnley, with tears in his eyes. "When you look at many of these cadets go into the service, you never know what the service is going to cost them."

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE  
BLOODSHED**

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

**Helicopter Crash At Kabul Base  
Kills 5 Foreign Troops:  
Two British, Three Not Identified;**

# Five More Injured, Not Identified

11 October 2015 by RAHIM FAIEZ, Associated Press & AFP

KABUL, Afghanistan -- A military helicopter crashed in a non-hostile incident Sunday at their base in the Afghan capital, Kabul, killing five foreign troops and injuring five others, authorities said.

A statement from the Resolute Support Mission did not give the nationalities of those killed and injured, all of them foreign personnel.

But the British Ministry of Defense said two Royal Air Force members were among those killed when the Puma Mk 2 helicopter crashed while landing at the headquarters of the NATO Resolute Support Mission, which is training Afghan security forces.

The two RAF casualties were from the 230 and 33 Squadrons of the Royal Air Force, the statement added.

The deaths bring to 456 the total number of British forces, personnel and defence ministry civilians killed serving in Afghanistan since Britain joined a US-led invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001.

The mission statement said the helicopter "crashed due to a non-hostile incident" around 4:15 p.m. Sunday at Camp

In the helicopter crash, the aircraft appeared to strike a monitoring balloon as it landed at the base, according to Najibullah, an Afghan security guard who witnessed the incident. Like many in Afghanistan, he goes by one name.

**The helicopter "hit the cable of the security balloon over the base, It seemed like the cable was turned around the helicopter rotor," he said. Najibullah said the helicopter went down and then black smoke rose from the area.**

A second helicopter circled around the area three or four times and then landed at a nearby airport, he said.

Tribus would only say that an "incident" involving an aircraft and an observational balloon had taken place "in the vicinity of the Resolute Support base" in central Kabul.

The monitoring balloon was severed from its mooring in the incident, he said, without providing further details.

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## Taliban Attack UK Military Convoy That Wasn't Really There:

# **“It Was The First Time British Troops Had Been Targeted In Kabul Since UK Combat Forces Withdrew From Afghanistan Last Year”**



Troops examining the bomb scene. BBC

11 October 2015 BBC & RAHIM FAIEZ, Associated Press

**A convoy of UK military vehicles has been attacked in the Afghan capital Kabul, the UK's Ministry of Defence has said.**

**The blast targeted two armored vehicles attached to the NATO Resolute Support mission, destroying one of them.**

The attack, which took place in a residential area near a market on Sunday morning, injured seven people.

There were no UK dead, the MoD said, adding the convoy had been struck by an improvised explosive device.

The Taliban claimed the attack in retaliation for air strikes in Kunduz which killed civilians and doctors.

There have been conflicting reports about the cause of Sunday's explosion. The MoD said it was an IED, while officials in Kabul said it was a bombing.

The MoD said the convoy had been on a "routine road move" as part of the NATO Resolute Support mission in Kabul when it was struck.

The BBC's Shaimaa Khalil, in Kabul, says a military vehicle was immobilised in the attack at about 09:00 local time.

Our correspondent said it was the first time British troops had been targeted in Kabul since UK combat forces withdrew from Afghanistan last year.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid sent a statement to local media claiming responsibility.

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## POLICE WAR REPORTS

### **Mom Calls 9-1-1 for Paramedics, Cop Shows Up, Shoots 4-year-old Daughter**



October 11, 2015 By Matt Agorist, The Free Thought Project

Columbus, OH — A mother's attempt to get medical help for a cut on her arm turned into a nightmare after a trigger happy cop showed up. The dramatic 9-1-1 recordings were just published, detailing this insane incident that happened back in June.

The nightmare began after Andrea Ellis had cut her arm on some glass and her sister dialed 9-1-1 for medical help.

"She's bleeding all over the place!" her sister said in the call. "I need a paramedic!"

As she was on the call, her sister saw a police officer nearby and called him over for help.

"Sir, can you get me a paramedic?! I need a paramedic here!" she said.

According to the report by Inside Edition:

"But as the cop approached the house, events took a horrific turn. Cops said the family pet – a boxer-terrier mix named Patches, charged at the officer. **[As usual: dogs are always killed "charging" cops, just like Black kids are always killed "reaching for their waistbands." T]**



“The cop fired his gun, and the bullet hit Andrea’s four-year-old daughter, Ava, in the leg, shattering the bone.

“She asked me several times, ‘Mommy, am I gonna die?’ Andrea Ellis told INSIDE EDITION”

Luckily, the bullet didn’t hit Ava a few inches higher in the stomach, which could’ve proved fatal. The shot did, however, shatter her bone.

The officer involved has not been disciplined, but the Columbus police department assures the public that the incident is under investigation.

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## **MILITARY NEWS**

**“People Are Angry And Boiling” At Russian Airstrikes: “Terrified Residents Of Affected Areas Increasingly Believe The US Has Reached A Tacit Agreement With Russia To Preserve The Assad Regime”**

**“The People Know Now That It Is A War Against Syrians”**

**“This Flagrant Intervention Is Aimed At Supporting Assad Under The Guise Of Fighting Terrorism”**

2 October 2015 by Kareem Shaheen in Beirut, The Guardian

“Brother, the Russian fighters are in our sky right now,” said Tarek Balsha, as he spoke from his home in Hama province, near the Ghab plain. “By God, I just heard it.

“There’s just a hill separating us. We men have gotten used to this, but we fear for our women and children. Our fear for them never leaves us.”

It is a sentiment shared throughout Syria’s opposition-held territories.

Terrorised for years by the prospect of crude barrel bombs launched by a regime that has sought to collectively punish those who live under rebel rule, they now face the prospect of more precise, but destructive Russian bombs.

The Russian intervention in Syria is more expansive than its initial stated goal of targeting Islamic State, the terror group that controls vast swaths of eastern and northern Syria.

**Vladimir Putin’s military operations appear aimed at a wider foe – opposition groups who have wrested control of large amounts of territory from the Assad regime and who are inching closer to his strongholds in central and western Syria, as well as Jabhat al-Nusra, al-Qaida’s wing in the country.**

Russian jets have bombed targets in the provinces of Homs, Hama, Idlib and Aleppo, in areas where Isis has no major presence, and where opposition groups, including some backed by the US and Gulf states, hold sway.

**Terrified residents of affected areas increasingly believe the US has reached a tacit agreement with Russia to preserve the Assad regime.**

**There is also increased sympathy for al-Qaida and its message of American weakness.**

“God be with us, they’ve been flying all day yesterday, they sound different than the Syrian planes,” said Mohammad, from Maarat al-Numan, a town in Idlib province, which was struck by Russian aircraft. “Everyone is scared because now we see two planes in the sky at a time, one Syrian and one Russian, as if they’re practicing.

“The people know now that it is a war against Syrians.”

A coalition of rebels, known as Jaysh al-Fateh, took control of most of Idlib in a multistage offensive last spring.

**The coalition includes Jabhat al-Nusra, but Isis has no known presence in the province.**

The airstrikes in both Idlib and Hama targeted rebel positions belonging to the coalition, as well as fighters in the moderate opposition backed by the US and the Gulf states who are active in the area.

**A member of the local governing council in Daarat al-Izza, a town in Aleppo that was hit on Friday, said they have not had an Isis presence for a year and a half.**

The attack targeted a communication centre at the edge of the town belonging to one of the opposition factions.

“It’s a fearsome sound,” he said. “We’re at the start of the school year and there’s clear fear in the streets. We have canceled Friday prayers, public markets and any large gatherings.”

**“The goal of the Russian planes isn’t Daesh (Isis) or Jabhat al-Nusra, their target is every fighter in the Levant,” said one religious official with Jaysh al-Fateh.**

**“This flagrant intervention is aimed at supporting Assad under the guise of fighting terrorism.”**

“People are angry and boiling. Some are fearful because Russian aircraft are more potent and destructive and modern, but most have just resigned themselves to God, it’s like they’re immune after the training they got under Syrian planes. They’ve acclimated to the planes.”

The official added that the airstrikes were bolstering the popularity of Jabhat al-Nusra, with its combined message of American duplicity against Muslims and the prospect of fighting an old foe – many of al-Qaida’s veterans once fought the Soviet Union in Afghanistan.

In Talbiseh in northern Homs, religious officials cancelled the weekly Friday prayers after Russian jets bombed the area, allegedly killing about 18 civilians and wounding 65 people.

“We warn against the continuation of this campaign which will lead to a humanitarian catastrophe because the area is filled with civilians and refugees from nearby areas and we are out of medical supplies,” the local hospital said in a statement.

“Operations to save victims trapped under the rubble continued until late at night, showing the destructive power of the weapons used.”

It is a predicament that many in Syria have become used to.

“Those who haven’t fled in five years of airstrikes won’t flee now,” said Mohammad, as he described a plume of smoke from the nearby Idlib town of Habit after an airstrike.

“People have realised that if they flee every time there’s a battle or bombing it won’t end. So they’ve gotten used to the bombings and say if we’re going to die, at least we die in our homes.”

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## **“Signs Of Unease And Dissent Are Growing” Among Assad’s Allies In Hezbollah:**

**“How Much Longer Is It Going To Take And How Many More Of Our Sons Will Die Before Victory?”**

**One Fighter With More Than A Decade’s Experience “Tired Of Watching Friends Die In Syria And Angry At Corruption He Sees Around Him”**

**“It’s Not Only Me. There Are People Who Want To Quit Who Have Had Enough Of It”**



Hezbollah supporters listened to Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah speak from a secret location on a TV screen in Wadi al-Hujair, Lebanon, Aug. 14.

October 4, 2015 By Nicholas Blanford, Correspondent; Christian Science Monitor  
[Excerpts]

In a military commitment that dwarfs the south Lebanon resistance campaign two decades ago, thousands of Hezbollah cadres have fought on Syria's bloody battlefields – from Aleppo's battered ruins in the north to the rugged Qalamoun Mountains near Damascus and the basalt-studded Golan plateau in the south.

But the move has put a strain on Hezbollah, which has paid a price in lives and prestige, with many analysts saying the toll in three years in Syria must have exceeded the 1,276 from 18 years spent battling Israel's occupation.

Lebanon's Shiite community generally continues to support Hezbollah's actions in Syria. The threat posed by Sunni extremists, such as the self-described Islamic State (IS), does much to keep the community rallied around the yellow banner of Hezbollah and the protection given by its formidable army.

Yet signs of unease and dissent are growing.

Hezbollah's usually resilient base is beginning to feel the burden of a war now in its fifth year that has claimed the lives of a quarter million people and shows no sign of ending.

Some are wearily asking – albeit in muted tones for now – where Nasrallah, a leader in whom they traditionally place absolute trust, is taking Hezbollah, the Shiite community, and Lebanon.

**“We are with the resistance (Hezbollah), and we have faith in Nasrallah when he promises us victory in Syria. But how much longer is it going to take and how many more of our sons will die before victory?” asks Umm Ali, mother of a Hezbollah fighter killed in Syria in 2013.**

The decision to intervene in Syria was not taken lightly.

Although Hezbollah is a Shiite organization, Nasrallah has always promoted unity with Sunnis, believing Muslims should unite against Israel.

But dispatching his fighters into Syria against a mainly Sunni opposition to help preserve the Alawite minority rule of Assad was bound to alienate Sunnis across the region.

It would also tarnish Hezbollah's image as a champion of oppressed peoples and risk dragging Syria's war onto Lebanese soil.

On the other hand, if the Assad regime were to fall it would sever the geographical links between Iran and its protégé Hezbollah and rupture the regional anti-Israel “axis of resistance.” Hezbollah might also have to contend with a hostile Sunni regime in Syria and an emboldened Sunni community in Lebanon.

For Hezbollah and Iran, the motivations for interceding in Syria outweighed the potential blowback.

“It was Nasrallah's decision to send his fighters into Syria ... after extensive consultations with the Iranians,” says Randa Slim, a Hezbollah expert at the Middle East Institute in Washington. “In all matters of the Levant, including Syria, Iraq, and Lebanon, as far as

Iranian decisionmakers are concerned, Nasrallah's counsel is second only to that of the supreme leader" of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

In the winding streets of Shiite villages in the hills of south Lebanon, pictures of Hezbollah "martyrs" abound. Some are sun-faded black-and-white portraits of fighters with thick beards and 1980s-style haircuts, killed while battling Israelis long ago.

But they are outnumbered today by the profusion of fresh, brightly colored memorials to a new generation of fighters who died in Syria.

**Most of these young men would have joined Hezbollah with the expectation of fighting Israel rather than Sunni rebels in Syria.**

**But since the 2006 war – which claimed the lives of some 1,100 Lebanese civilians, 165 Israeli soldiers and civilians, and between 200 and 700 Hezbollah fighters – the Lebanese-Israeli border has experienced its longest period of calm in half a century.**

Abu Khalil, who battled Israeli troops in the 1990s and in 2006, has no qualms about continuing to fight in Syria's grueling war. He unquestioningly subscribes to the party line that Assad's survival is essential to maintain "resistance" against Israel and to protect Lebanon from the Takfiri threat. "It's not easy, but God is with us," he says.

However, not all Hezbollah fighters share his view. Some say they have had enough of the war and are looking to leave Hezbollah.

Hezbollah's tight internal discipline weighs against such sentiment being aired in public.

**But one fighter with more than a decade's experience admits that he wants to leave, having tired of watching his friends die in Syria and angry at the corruption he says he sees around him.**

**Hezbollah once had an enviable reputation for financial probity, but in recent years, as it swelled in size, it has been marred by allegations of internal corruption.**

**"It's not only me. There are people who want to quit who have had enough of it," the veteran fighter says, speaking on condition of anonymity.**

**He adds that he knew of some fighters who had returned from a tour in Syria and immediately departed Lebanon, joining the stream of refugees heading into Europe.**

**"The Syrians have to fight for themselves. Why should I have to go to Syria and fight?" he says. "They (Syrian refugees) come over here with their wives and kids, and have more kids, and I'm over there fighting for them?"**

It is difficult to assess the depth of such sentiment within Hezbollah's ranks and among its support base. However, it does not appear to be sufficiently strong to pose a potential challenge to Nasrallah's leadership of the party. He appears to have the

continuing confidence of Iran, and if there are qualms expressed in the upper ranks of Hezbollah, they are not leaking into the public arena.

But as the war grinds on, Hezbollah's supporters inevitably will ponder how much longer the party will remain in Syria.

"If IS was to remain ensconced in its strongholds in Syria for the next five to 10 years, does this mean Hezbollah continuing to send fighters to Syria for the next 10 years?" asks Ms. Slim, the Hezbollah expert. "Still, these are rumblings that have not jelled yet into a bottom-up force that could force Hezbollah to change its current course of action."

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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**

They treasured up wrath for the time to come.

-- Edward, Earl of Clarendon, 1702, on the growing discontent below that led to the revolutionary overthrow and 1649 beheading of Charles I, King of England.

# GUNS

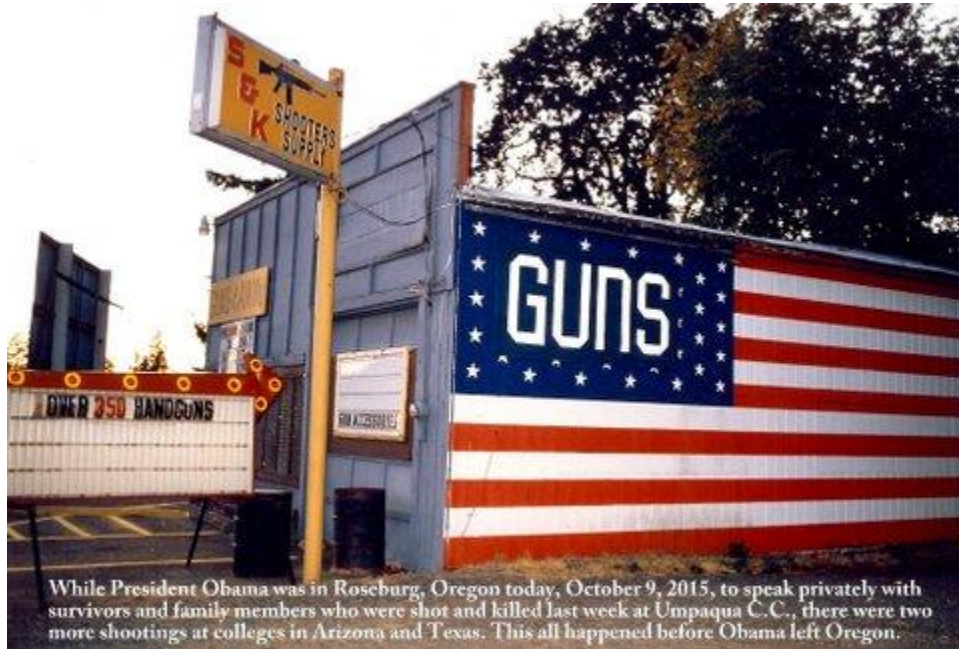


Photo by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: October 10, 2015  
Subject: GUNS

## GUNS

**The right to bear 300,000,000 guns.  
The right to stockpile enough ammunition  
to kill everyone on the face of the earth.  
That's America.  
That's Freedom!**

**Mike Hastie  
Veterans For Peace**

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



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

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

## **Shut It Down**

From: Dennis Serdel  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: October 11, 2013  
Subject: Shut It Down

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

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### **Shut It Down**

**There are many men at the VA door  
that is locked  
finger nail scratches & blood  
runs down the door  
& all of them want to kill themselves  
and need help  
until a shadow opens the door  
& gives each man a loaded pistol  
and tells them to go away  
as the bloody door closes.  
Marie, a Military Wife takes her 3 children  
to the Commissary on base  
where food & supplies are cheap  
only to find it is closed  
while her husband is fighting overseas  
in a war for some reason  
that she doesn't understand  
what for & talk is the next payment  
could be late or not there at all  
so he is fighting for nothing.  
WWII Soldiers fly to DC to see  
their Memorial that is closed  
Democrats & Republicans rush together  
to cut the ribbon saying Closed**

shaking hands of War while back  
at Congress they then work as  
Repubcrats to cut VA Disability payments  
Social Security that they fought for  
as the Demopubs stab the Veterans  
in their backs with an icepick  
with government cold hands  
so they die too and used as Yes men  
for other Wars dead or alive  
Now the government fire Soldiers  
& gut the GI Bill, if you want a house  
go build it yourself  
or live in a rundown apartment  
working for Walmart  
then try to go to College  
with an old car that needs tires  
& guzzles gasoline.  
All Veterans are a hassle  
why can't they just fight & go away.  
Now they backlog some PTSD  
so they are given powerful scripts  
so at best they will OD & go away  
The US Empire Kills more X-Soldier  
Veterans & Soldiers than the Taliban  
or foreign enemy.  
Bob rips off the bumper sticker on  
his truck that says "I am a Proud Father  
of a Son in the Army." His son  
was just killed in Afghanistan,  
The American Dream for the Soldiers  
is no more because it is  
an American Holocaust  
that the Soldiers need to shut down.

Shock Poetry written by Dennis Serdel for Military Resistance

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## **ANNIVERSARIES**

**14 Oct 1917:  
The Army Joins The Revolution:**

**“All Other Major Political Groups Lost Credibility Because Of Their Association With The Government And Their Insistence On Patient Sacrifice In The Interests Of The War Effort”**



Revolutionary Army: (Photo by Hulton Archive/Getty Images)

September 28, 2007 By PAUL D'AMATO, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

**RUSSIA WAS** the first and only country to achieve a socialist revolution--that is, a society in which ordinary people had their hands on the levers of power.

For that reason alone, the capitalist rulers of the world cannot allow it to stand on its own merits. The later degeneration of the revolution into bureaucratic, one-party totalitarian rule must be read back into the past to “prove” that the revolution was doomed to fail.

This is the purpose of the hundreds of studies published by Russia “experts” that portray Lenin and the Bolshevik Party as ruthless, nasty and authoritarian. The revolution, in most accounts, did not involve the masses in determining their own destiny, but was the work of individuals bent on exploiting mass discontent for their own purposes.

This framework serves two purposes: to elevate the role of individuals in the making of history, and simultaneously to denigrate the role of ordinary workers, who are seen as naïve dupes.

Lenin is portrayed as a superhuman madman, bent on one-man dictatorship--and possessing an irresistible will to power. Historian Robert Payne, for example, writes absurdly of Lenin, "His fanatical will was like a lever which attempted to throw the whole globe into an orbit more to his liking; and because he pressed so hard on the lever, the earth still shudders."

The reality is that the Bolshevik Party became a mass party in the course of the revolution, winning the allegiance of the most militant workers. Far from being Lenin's cat's paw, the Bolsheviks were a party alive with debate and disagreement, with different factions fighting over the revolution's course.

Lenin was certainly the most respected leader in the party, but it was a respect earned by his role as a theoretician and practical leader, not by hypnosis or fiat. Indeed, Lenin often found himself in the minority and had to fight hard for his positions. Moreover, in a number of cases, Lenin's views, particularly on tactical questions, were wrong, and were rejected or adjusted by the party.

When Lenin returned to Russia in April, his views--transfer all power to the Soviets--were considered by other Bolsheviks to be completely out of touch and even anarchist. It took him some weeks of hard argument to win over the party.

Lenin also had to fight tooth and nail to convince the party of the necessity of preparing for an insurrection once the Bolsheviks had won over a majority in the Moscow and Petrograd soviets.

On the other hand, Lenin proved to be wrong after the July Days when he argued that the soviets were now bankrupt institutions. The party, though it officially voted to abandon the slogan "All power to the soviets," never really abandoned it at the local level and soon restored it.

Lenin was also wrong in his views that the insurrection might begin in Moscow--Petrograd was clearly the leading revolutionary citadel in Russia--and in his insistence that the insurrection should be organized through the Bolshevik Party, independently of the soviets. Other leaders, such as Leon Trotsky, were able to set a better course on these questions.

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THE ARGUMENT that the Bolsheviks "hijacked" the revolution fails to take into account that the Bolsheviks were only one political party among many competing for the support of the Russian people.

The fact that the Bolsheviks were able to win mass support away from the Social Revolutionaries and Mensheviks flowed not from their superior persuasive powers or ability to command blind obedience, but because of their program.

**They were the only party that demanded land to the peasants, factories to the workers, all power to the soviets [elected workers' councils] and an end to the war.**

**“All other major political groups,” writes historian Alexander Rabinowitch, “lost credibility because of their association with the government and their insistence on patient sacrifice in the interests of the war effort.”**

In short, whereas the other parties acted as a brake on the revolution, the Bolsheviks wanted to see it through to the end.

At the same time, the party was not for some kind of minority putsch against the Provisional Government led by Kerensky. Lenin and other party leaders worked to restrain the movement when they felt that a premature revolt threatened the movement as a whole with defeat.

It must be remembered that Lenin's position was that the party must “patiently explain” their demands and win over the majority of the working class before it could move toward decisive action against the Provisional Government.

Lenin's bold and determined leadership, as well as the Bolsheviks' relative unity and discipline compared to other political parties, were key factors in the revolution's success.

But this unity and discipline was not bureaucratic--it was organic and political. The party debated and voted on all key questions, and local organizations of the party possessed a great deal of leeway to carry on their own independent initiatives.

Rabinowitch attributes much of the Bolsheviks' success in transforming themselves from a party of 25,000 on the eve of the February Revolution into a mass party capable of leading a successful struggle for power with a membership of a quarter million to “the party's internally relatively democratic, tolerant and decentralized structure and method of operation, as well as its essentially open and mass character.”

The conspiratorial, clandestine forms of organization of the Bolsheviks that preceded the revolutionary period were imposed by necessity on all illegal parties as a result of the repressive conditions of Tsarism. The Bolsheviks were always prepared, when conditions changed, to move toward open, democratic methods of organization.

This little fact is practically ignored by most historians.

The dreaded “democratic centralism” of the Bolshevik Party was exactly what the term implies: the fullest and freest debate, combined with strict adherence to decisions once made. This is what gave the party its ability to “read” what was happening in the disparate sectors of struggle, generalize from that experience and offer guidance to it.

Democracy without centralism is a talk shop. Centralism without democracy creates bureaucratism and isolates the leaders from the ranks.

As Trotsky later wrote:

“How could a genuinely revolutionary organization, setting itself the task of overthrowing the world and uniting under its banner the most audacious iconoclasts, fighters and insurgents, live and develop without intellectual conflicts, without groups and temporary faction formations?...

“The Central Committee relied upon this seething democratic support. From this, it derived the audacity to make decision and give orders. The obvious correctness of the leadership at all critical stages gave it that high authority which is the priceless capital of centralism.”

Rabinowitch, in his book *The Bolsheviks Come to Power*, is able to demonstrate in rich detail that “within the Bolshevik Petrograd organization at all levels in 1917, there was continuing free and lively discussion and debate over the most basic theoretical and tactical issues,” and that the party had shifting left, center and moderate tendencies within it, right through the revolutionary period.

“Leaders who differed with the majority were at liberty to fight for their views, and not infrequently, Lenin was the loser in those struggles.”

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SURPRISING THOUGH these insights are to most bourgeois or anarchist commentators, the Bolsheviks’ open and democratic character flowed from its commitment to workers’ self-emancipation.

Lenin’s insistence on the need to build a disciplined party of revolutionaries is usually presented as a product of his “distrust” of the working class’s revolutionary potential--when, in fact, Lenin’s entire political career was based on the proposition, established in the early years of the Russian Marxist movement, that, “(t)he revolutionary movement in Russia can triumph only as the revolutionary movement of the workers.”

Nikolai Sukhanov, by no means a Bolshevik supporter in 1917, but who witnessed the party at close quarters in the days leading up to the October Revolution, observed the interconnectedness between the party and the working class:

The Bolsheviks were working stubbornly and without letup. They were among the masses, at the factory benches, every day without a pause. Tens of speakers, big and little, were speaking in Petersburg, at the factories and in the barracks, every blessed day.

For the masses, they had become their own people, because they were always there, taking the lead in details as well as in the most important affairs of the factory or barracks. They had become the sole hope...The mass lived and breathed together with the Bolsheviks.

What Sukhanov seemed not to understand is that the Bolsheviks themselves were workers--leaders on the ground in the day-to-day struggle.

They did not parachute in from somewhere else; they were already there.

As early as June, for example, Bolshevik delegates dominated the conferences of the factory committees. The Bolshevik vanguard was not an isolated elite, but organized working-class militants tempered by shared experience and shared politics, developed through interaction with their fellow workers.

One lesson of the Russian Revolution is that workers can take over the running of society; revolutions can win. Of course, the lesson of many failed workers' revolutions (1905 in Russia or 1919-23 in Germany, for example) is that such victories are by no means guaranteed.

Another, equally important lesson is that such a revolution can only win, as it did in Russia, if the working class organizes its own revolutionary party to guide its path to power.

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## October 14, 1943: Heroic Uprising Against Nazis At The Sobibor Death Camp



A group portrait of some of the participants in the uprising at the Sobibor extermination camp. Poland, August 1944.

Carl Bunin Peace history October 8-14

US Holocaust Memorial Museum:

**Sobered by both the sense that killing operations in the facility were winding down and information that Belzec had been dismantled and all surviving prisoners liquidated, prisoners at Sobibor organized a resistance group in the late spring of 1943.**

After considering several options for escape and augmented in numbers and military training skills by the arrival of a number of former Soviet-Jewish prisoners of war from the Minsk ghetto in late September, the prisoners opted for an uprising, following the liquidation of key German camp officials.

On October 14, 1943, with approximately 600 prisoners left in the camp, those who knew the plan for the uprising initiated the operation. The prisoners succeeded in killing nearly a dozen German personnel and Trawniki-trained guards.

Around 300 prisoners succeeded in breaking out of the killing center that day; around 100 were caught in the dragnet that following and more than half of the remaining survivors did not live to see the end of the war.

After the revolt, the Germans and the Trawniki-trained guards dismantled the killing center and shot the Jewish prisoners who had not escaped during the uprising.

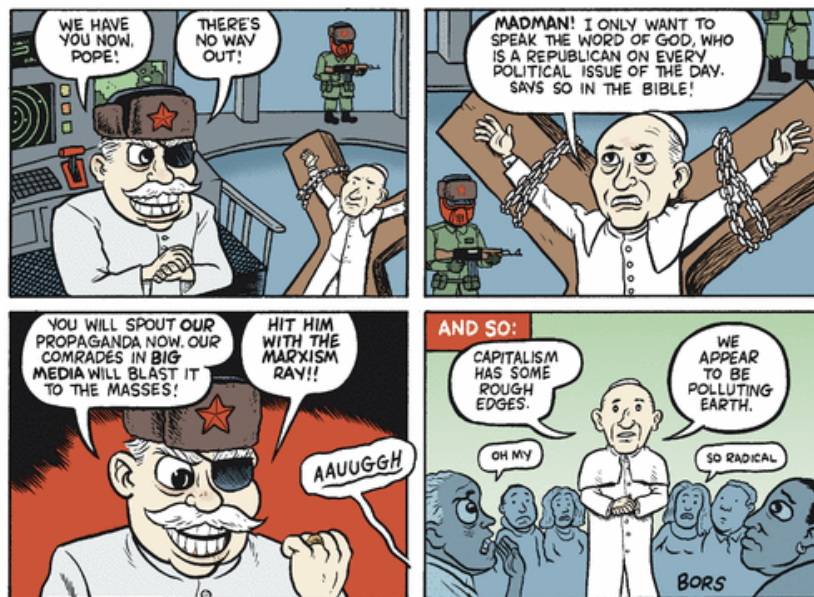
Pursuant to discussions in the SS hierarchy in the summer of 1943, the Germans had intended to transform the facility first into a holding pen for women and children deported west from occupied Belarus after their fathers and husbands had been murdered in so-called anti-partisan operations, and later, into an ammunition supply depot.

Although there is no information that new prisoners ever arrived in Sobibor after the murder of remaining Jewish prisoners in November 1943, a small Trawniki-trained guard detachment remained at the former killing center through at least the end of March 1944.

Though Sobibor's six gas chambers could exterminate 1200 people at a time, it was the smallest of the death camps.

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## DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK





# **U.S. Workers Are More Educated And More Productive “But Incomes Have Either Stagnated Or Declined Since 1973”**

October 6, 2015 by Lance Selfa, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

Before the late-summer gyrations in the stock market brought worries of a new economic slowdown back into the headlines, the story of the U.S. economy's climb back from the depths of the 2007-09 recession was supposed to be a tale of "steady progress."

Unemployment may have dropped by half since the worst point of the Great Recession, and workers have more flexibility to quit jobs to get better ones. But those short-term trends haven't changed a nearly four-decade-long decline in U.S. workers' standard of living.

The median annual income of a male U.S. worker, working full time, was less in 2014 (at \$50,383) than in 1973 (at \$53,291), in inflation-adjusted dollars.

A woman working full-time earned about \$9,000 more in 2014 than in 1973 (moving from \$30,180 to \$39,621 in annual income). This certainly illustrates the crucial role that working women play in supporting households.

But in the last half of that period--since the tight labor market of the late 1990s--neither men nor women have seen any sustained increase.

As a result, most American households have experienced economic stagnation or worse for the last decade and a half.

For non-elderly households, real median household income, adjusted for inflation, dropped 12.3 percent, from \$66,845 to \$60,462, between 2000 and 2014.

One of the orthodox assumptions of both liberal and conservative economics is that a more productive economy leads to higher living standards.

According to the theory, when workers are better educated and better trained, and when technology is intelligently deployed to increase economic efficiency, the overall economy produces more and workers earn more.

Or so the theory goes. What's the evidence?

The alleged association between the economy's productivity and workers' wages proved true between 1948 and 1973--productivity increased by about 97 percent and workers' incomes increased by 91 percent, after accounting for inflation.

But since then, it's a different story.

On the one hand, the number of Americans over 25 with a bachelor's degree or higher grew from 19 percent in 1973 to 34 percent in 2014.

During the same time period, output per hour worked--the standard measure of economic productivity--increased by about 72 percent.

So workers are more educated and more productive--but their incomes have either stagnated or declined since 1973.

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## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

### **Zionist Attack Kills Pregnant Palestinian Woman And Her Child In Gaza**

Associated Press 11 October 2015

An Israeli airstrike on a Hamas target in the Gaza Strip on Sunday brought down a nearby house, killing a Palestinian woman and her daughter, hospital officials said, as a wave of violence in the region triggered fears of wider escalation.

Witnesses said the powerful explosion at one of the Hamas camps in Gaza City caused a nearby house to collapse while its inhabitants were sleeping inside.

A Gaza health ministry spokesman, Ashraf al-Qidra, said the woman killed was 30 and pregnant, her daughter was three.

A five-year-old boy and a man were wounded, he added.

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### **Crazed Occupation Soldiers Attack Journalists On West Bank: “A Soldier Jumped On Him And Put A Pistol On His Face And Attacked Him”**

25 September 2015 Peter Beaumont in Jerusalem, The Guardian

**A dramatic video has emerged showing Israeli soldiers make an unprovoked assault on two journalists working for Agence France-Presse during a demonstration on the West Bank.**

According to AFP's bureau chief, Thomas Cox, the two men – Andrea Bernardi, an Italian videographer working for the organisation, and Abbas Momani – had arrived in the village of Beit Furik near Nablus on Friday to cover a demonstration that followed the funeral of a Palestinian who had died after being shot by Israeli security forces a week ago.

The video – shot by a Palmedia camera crew from the demonstrators' side – shows the two men walking down the road towards the protest before having their equipment seized and smashed.

**During the encounter, which is under investigation by the Israeli army, Bernardi was punched in the neck and face by a soldier.**

“They had passed the first checkpoint of the border police with their press cards without problem. Andrea paused to check his camera settings and as he was doing so a soldier immediately arrived and told him to stop filming and pushed his camera. He then took the camera and smashed it.

**“They thought these are crazy young soldiers so, as you see on the video, they left. But the soldiers came and at this moment took the stills camera and took everything in the photographer's pocket – batteries, memory cards. Andrea then came back to recover his destroyed camera. At this point a soldier jumped on him and put a pistol on his face and attacked him.”**

Bernardi said: “It was crazy. When we arrived at the border police checkpoint we showed our documents. There was no problem. They were being nice.

“We put on our ([protective) vests and started walking towards the clashes. We passed the first line of soldiers loading teargas. I heard screaming and a soldier started pushing and shouting ‘what the fuck are you doing’ in English. I then realised he was loading this gun and I thought ‘what the ...’ and we started walking back.

“If we had done anything wrong they would have arrested us but you can see what happens in the video.

“After we got back to the car I saw a piece of the camera and wanted to take a picture of it because I was worried they would accuse me of doing something wrong. “

“That's when a soldier pointed a pistol in my face and pulled me down.””

AFP has protested to the Israeli military over the incident and said it intends to file an official complaint.

An Israeli army spokesman told the Guardian that a preliminary investigation had established that the soldiers involved in the assault had violated Israeli military rules of conduct permitting journalists to work and those involved would face disciplinary action.

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# 13 Year Old Shot By Zionists Palestinian Has Leg Amputated



Eissa Al-Muti. (Falasteen via MEMO)

Oct 1 2015 PalestineChronicle.com

A 13-year-old Palestinian boy has had his right leg amputated after Israeli soldiers shot him, the victim's lawyer said.

Detainees and Ex-Detainees Committee lawyer Tareq Barghouthi said Eissa Al-Muti was detained on 19 September after he was critically wounded at the entrance of Bethlehem.

Al-Muti is being held at the Israeli Hadassah Medical Centre and is chained to his bed in the medical centre, Barghouti said.

Upon arrival Al-Muti was due to have an operation on the veins in his leg in an effort to save it, however the operation failed and his situation deteriorated leading doctors to amputate it.

The Ofer Military Court ruled that the teen should be released yesterday on a bail of 700 shekels (\$178) however the military prosecutor appealed the decision based on Al-Muti's medical condition.

Head of the prisoners' affairs Issa Qaraqe said Al-Muti is a victim of the racist Israeli policies and their aggression against Palestinian children.

He added that this is a deliberate crime for which the Israeli occupation must pay and be prosecuted for in an international court.

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



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