

## Military Resistance 13K1



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: "It's been awhile since we invaded another country."]

**The Liar Obama Sending U.S.  
Troops To Syrian War:  
"President Barrack Obama Had  
Long Promised Not To Send  
Ground Forces To Syria"  
"Defense Officials Couldn't Rule Out  
Possibility That The Forces Would Be  
Pulled Into Occasional Firefights  
With Islamic State Military"**

## D.C. Regime Also Signals Willingness To Let Mass Murderer Assad “Remain In Power For Several Months Or More”



*Why, I can smile, and murder whiles I smile,  
And cry 'Content' to that which grieves my heart  
And wet my cheeks with artificial tears,  
And frame my face to all occasions.  
-- Gloucester, "Henry VI"-Shakespeare*

Oct. 30, 2015 By Adam Entous, Gordon Lubold and Carol E. Lee, Wall Street Journal

WASHINGTON—The U.S. is sending special-operations forces to northeastern Syria, a shift in strategy that establishes the first sustained American military presence in the campaign against Islamic State in the war-ravaged country.

Up to 50 U.S. special-operations troops will assist Syrian rebel units spearheading what the Pentagon says would be a new military offensive against the militant group, marking a sharp escalation in the level of direct U.S. involvement on the ground inside Syria.

The American forces are to link up with local forces in Kurdish-controlled territory whose mission will be to choke off supply lines to Islamic State militants in their Syrian stronghold of Raqqa.

The move marks a change for President Barack Obama who had long promised not to send ground forces to Syria.

“They are not being deployed with a combat mission,” White House press secretary Josh Earnest said. **[The stupid White House lies again. See SecDef Carter, next. T]**

“The mission of our men and women on the ground has not changed.”

If the initial deployment bears fruit, Defense Secretary Ash Carter said on Friday that he would be open to deploying more forces.

“We are going to continue to innovate, to build on what works,” Mr. Carter told reporters on a military jet as it landed in Fairbanks, Alaska, for the first leg of a trip through Asia.

**“Our role fundamentally and the strategy is to enable local forces. But does that put U.S. forces in harm’s way? It does, no question about it.”**

The decision to send troops coincides with an administration shift on the fate of Syrian ruler Bashar al-Assad in international talks under way in Vienna.

**While U.S. officials once demanded Mr. Assad leave as part of any truce, they have signaled a willingness to let the dictator remain in power for several months or more during a political transition.**

Under Mr. Obama’s new orders, the American commandos will operate in Syria under what the Pentagon calls an advise-and-assist mission, and will not accompany local forces on any of their operations “for the foreseeable future,” a senior U.S. defense official said.

**But other defense officials said they couldn’t rule out the possibility that the forces would be pulled into occasional firefights with Islamic State military given their proximity to the confrontation line.**

**The officials cited as an example last week’s raid in Iraq in which a U.S. commando was killed.**

Since the start of the war in Syria in 2011, Mr. Obama has sought to keep U.S. ground forces out of the country, although the Pentagon has conducted a limited number of raids there using special-operations forces since mid-2014.

**Mr. Obama declared in 2013 that he “will not put American boots on the ground” inside Syria.**

**In September 2014, in an address outlining his strategy against the Islamic State, Mr. Obama said: “It will not involve American combat troops fighting on foreign soil.”**

Mr. Obama’s decision to expand the role of U.S. special-operations forces on the ground inside Syria followed a rare joint mission last week by U.S. special forces and Kurdish fighters to free prisoners of Islamic State in Iraq. The commandos intervened unexpectedly when the Kurdish forces they were assisting were pinned down by Islamic State fighters.

One of the U.S. commandos was killed in the firefight, the first U.S. combat fatality in Iraq since 2011.

**In May, Delta Force commandos carried out a raid in Syria in which they killed an Islamic State finance chief and captured his wife.**

**The first known U.S. raid in Syria during the civil war took place in July 2014, when Delta Force commandos attempted to rescue several Americans held by Islamic State militants at an oil facility near Raqqa.**

**The U.S. force swarmed the oil facility but the militants had already moved the hostages.**

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# **Master Sgt. Joshua Wheeler Of Oklahoma Remembered At Muldrow High School After He Was Killed In Iraq**

Oct 23, 2015 KJRH

MULDROW, Okla. - "Students, teachers, pardon the interruption. As many of you know and have heard, one of our former graduates, Joshua Wheeler, was killed in the line of duty yesterday."

Muldrow High School Principal Steve Page silenced the hallways with an announcement Friday afternoon to remember one of their own.

"We are both saddened and proud that one of our own served his country faithfully," Page continued. "Please stand in honor of Officer Wheeler as we pause for a moment of silence."

Master Sgt. Joshua L. Wheeler was killed during an operation in Iraq Thursday. He was part of an operation to rescue captives held on a compound in northern Iraq who faced "imminent mass execution."

More than 20 years ago, "Josh" was known for being a hard worker on the football field.

"He had a way about him of always be conscientious, always doing what we asked of him," said Randy Martin, Wheeler's former coach. Martin believes that is what made Wheeler a hero. "Josh became the man he became because of what was inside of him."

For those who knew him, Wheeler's bravery is an example of what it means to be a Muldrow Bulldog, and an Oklahoman. His legacy will live on in the hallways of his former high school and his hometown.

“He was an example of a patriot, of somebody who went and fought for our freedom and paid the ultimate sacrifice. And that's somebody that should be looked up to,” said Roland Town Administrator, Monty Levington, Jr.

## **POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE BLOODSHED**

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

# **“Battle Has Moved Closer To Lashkargah City And Reinforcement Troops Are Needed Urgently” “Not Been Able To Suppress The Taliban Due To A Lack Of Military Equipment”**

25 October 2015 TOLONews.com

A number of security force members fighting militants in Babaji area in Lashkargah city in southern Helmand province said on Sunday that their battle has lasted over a week and that they have not been able to suppress the Taliban due to a lack of military equipment.

“It has been six days that we are in battle here. We retook control of several areas but we lost them due to a lack of military equipment,” said one soldier.

Another soldier said: “This is the third security check post which we have retaken from insurgents. We were in the first line of the war for two days but we received no support.”

A number of police officials meanwhile said Taliban militants have killed family members of police officers in parts of Lashkargah city and that they have destroyed a number of bridges as well.

“The militants have killed some family members of police officers, they have destroyed bridges and burned down schools – for cooperating with government,” a Public Order police commander told TOLONews.

Meanwhile the head of Helmand's provincial council Karim Atal said the battle has moved closer to Lashkargah city and that reinforcement troops are needed urgently.

“The defense and interior ministers should pay serious attention to this clash which is now close to Lashkargah city. They should provide our brave troops with air support,” he added.

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## “Afghan Troops Fought To Retake Northern Border District From Taliban”

10/28/15 morningstaronline

Fierce battles raged yesterday as Afghan troops fought to retake a northern border district from the Taliban.

The fighting over Darqad district in Takhar province — on the border with Tajikistan — came as a Russian intelligence chief warned that Islamic extremists could expand into central Asia.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid emailed media organisations to say the battle for Darqad began at dawn on Wednesday.

**He said two Taliban guerillas were killed as the insurgents captured government buildings, including police headquarters.**

The provincial governor’s spokesman Sonatullah Taimor said that six members of the security forces had been killed.

Afghan officials have said the Taliban have joined with other insurgents, such as the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, and are spreading across the north with the aim of infiltrating central Asian states.

The new alliance briefly captured the prosperous northern city of Kunduz in an audacious surprise attack last month.

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## Darqad District “Fell To The Taliban Because What He Alleged The Forces Remained Inactive Against The Group” “Security Forces Didn't Fight At All”

# **“The Insurgents Have Drastically Extended Their Activities To The North And Northeastern Parts Of The Country”**

29 October 2015 by Abul Wali Arian, TOLONews & Al Bawaba

Former Police Chief of Takhar claimed on Thursday that Darqad district of the province fell to the Taliban because what he alleged the forces remained inactive against the group.

Abdul Hannan Qataghani claimed that the forces failed to show even a slight resistance against the Taliban – who seized district's control on Wednesday.

“Security forces didn't fight at all,” Qataghani said. “If they had fought, Darqad would have not fallen.”

Surrounded by Kokcha and Amur Rivers, Darqad district have no land route to other parts of the province. Therefore, the residents need to travel to the district by boats.

Criticizing the local forces, Qataghani raised the question about Taliban's advancement to the district – which has no link road to other districts.

But the security officials say that the forces tactically retreated from the district, which is about 100km from Talaqan city, the provincial capital.

The military experts, meanwhile, accused the government of not being able to manage the war and fighting in the country.

According to them, the Ministry of Defense lacks professional people in the leadership to manage war.

“We have enough force and weapons in these districts but there is no management,” military analyst Atiqullah Amarkhail said.

Over the past few months, the insurgents have drastically extended their activities to the north and northeastern parts of the country.

The militants have reportedly set up their hideouts in these regions in a bid to have more control over strategic parts of Afghanistan.

At least four police officers have been killed in a bomb explosion that destroyed their vehicle in Afghanistan's eastern province of Paktia.

The incident took place in the Sayid Karam district on Wednesday evening when the policemen's patrol car hit a buried explosive device, provincial police chief General Zalmai Oryakhail said on Thursday.

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## MILITARY NEWS

**Powerful Admiral Illegally Punished Whistleblowers But Getting Promotion Anyhow: “Investigators Determined He Illegally Retaliated Against Staff Members He Mistakenly Suspected Were Whistleblowers” And “Recommended Navy Take Action Against Losey For Violating Laws” “A Vengeful But Fruitless Hunt For The Person Who Had Anonymously Reported Him For A Minor Travel-Policy Infraction”**

“Cut The Head Off This Snake”



Rear Adm. Brian L. Losey, commander of Naval Special Warfare Command. (NA/U.S. Navy)



**The complaints against Losey also illustrate the Pentagon's long-standing reluctance to discipline top brass for wrongdoing and how the military typically conceals misconduct investigations from public view. The armed forces rarely disclose the existence of such cases except in response to public-records requests, which usually take months to process.**

October 21 By Craig Whitlock, Washington Post [Excerpts]

The Navy is poised to promote the admiral in charge of its elite SEAL teams and other commando units even though Pentagon investigators determined that he illegally retaliated against staff members who he mistakenly suspected were whistleblowers.

Rear Adm. Brian L. Losey was investigated five times by the Defense Department's inspector general after subordinates complained that he had wrongly fired, demoted or punished them during a vengeful but fruitless hunt for the person who had anonymously reported him for a minor travel-policy infraction, according to documents obtained by The Washington Post.

After conducting separate, years-long investigations that involved more than 100 witnesses and 300,000 pages of e-mails, the inspector general upheld complaints from three of the five staff members.

**In each of those cases, it recommended that the Navy take action against Losey for violating whistleblower-protection laws, the documents show.**

**The Navy, however, dismissed the findings this month and decided not to discipline Losey, a preeminent figure in the military's secretive Special Operations forces who once commanded SEAL Team 6, the clandestine unit known for killing terrorist targets such as Osama bin Laden.**

He now leads the Naval Special Warfare Command and has served in Afghanistan, Iraq, Panama, Bosnia, Somalia and other conflict zones.

Senior Navy leaders reviewed the inspector general's investigations but "concluded that none of the allegations rose to the level of misconduct on Admiral Losey's part," Rear Adm. Dawn Cutler, the Navy's chief spokeswoman, said in a statement. She added that "no further action is contemplated."

Losey did not respond to requests for comment placed through the Navy. Documents show that he vigorously contested the complaints, asserting that the staff members were poor performers and that he had acted within his authority as a commander.

The decision clears the way for Losey to pin on a higher rank as a two-star admiral. He was selected for the promotion in 2011, but it was put on hold for four years as the inquiries unfolded.

**Critics say the previously undisclosed investigations into one of the Navy's top SEALs underscore the weakness of the military's whistleblower-protection law and how rarely violators are punished.**

Under the law, commanders or senior civilian officials are prohibited from taking punitive action against anyone who has reported wrongdoing in the armed forces to the inspector general or members of Congress.

In comparison with other federal employees, whistleblowers working in the military or national security agencies must meet a higher burden of proof to win their cases.

**The odds are stacked against those who seek redress.**

**Of the 1,196 whistleblower -cases closed by the Defense Department during the 12 months ending March 31, only 3 percent were upheld by investigators, records show.**

“There’s no teeth,” said Mandy Smithberger, a military reform analyst at the Project on Government Oversight, a nonpartisan Washington advocacy group.

She called the military’s whistleblower law “a trap, because people think they have protection, but they don’t. It’s sad.”

**The complaints against Losey also illustrate the Pentagon’s long-standing reluctance to discipline top brass for wrongdoing and how the military typically conceals misconduct investigations from public view. The armed forces rarely disclose the existence of such cases- except in response to public-records requests, which usually take months to process.**

The only public reference to the Losey case is buried in a 134-page semi-annual report that the Defense Department inspector general submitted to Congress in June. Without identifying Losey by name, a single paragraph noted that a rear admiral had retaliated against people he thought were whistleblowers and that corrective action was “pending.”

The inspector general’s office declined to comment for this article. It has not responded to a request filed by The Post in August to release the Losey investigative reports under the Freedom of Information Act.

The Post obtained redacted copies of the reports from sources upset with the Navy’s decision not to take action against Losey.

**Most of the staff members who filed complaints against Losey declined to comment for the record, saying they were concerned they could face further retaliation for speaking out.**

An exception was Fredrick D. Jones, a retired Army Special Forces colonel who served as Losey’s civilian chief of staff before he was demoted.

He questioned how the military could repeatedly ignore the outcome of the investigations.

“The lack of action demonstrates the Whistleblower Reprisal Protection Act’s ineffectiveness in protecting victims, and highlights the lack of accountability for those individuals who have broken the law,” he said in an e-mail to The Post.

## **“Cut The Head Off This Snake”**

The turmoil began in July 2011, three weeks after Losey took charge of the military's Special Operations Command for Africa, headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany.

Someone filed an anonymous complaint with the inspector general alleging that Losey had improperly sought a government-paid plane ticket for his adult daughter when his family relocated to Germany.

In fact, Losey had paid for the plane ticket himself, and the complaint was soon dismissed. But enraged by what he saw as an act of disloyalty, the admiral became determined to find out who had reported him, according to the inspector general reports.

Several staff members testified that Losey drew up a list of suspects and made it known there would be consequences.

**One unidentified witness said Losey vowed to “find out who did it” and would “cut the head off this snake and we’ll end this.”**

Losey's mood soured even more a few weeks later. Another anonymous tipster filed an inspector-general complaint, alleging that the admiral had created a “toxic” atmosphere at headquarters.

As a result, Losey became convinced that there was “a conspiracy to undermine his command,” according to the inspector general's findings in the whistleblower -cases.

One witness testified that Losey told his staff to send a message to any malcontents: “If you continue to undermine my authority as a commander, I'm going to bury each one of them. I'm going to come after them, and I'm going to (make) it very unpleasant.”

About the same time, Losey began cracking down on people whom he saw as potentially disloyal, according to the inspector general.

**He fired an officer who had been on his list of suspects, alleging that he had committed a handful of minor transgressions, such as using the admiral's auto-pen without permission to sign routine paperwork.**

**He got rid of Jones, his chief of staff, who was stripped of his title and moved into a basement office, and then moved again to an even more remote outpost at a military airfield.**

**Later, Losey ordered an investigation into whether civilian staff members on his enemies list had committed time-keeping and -attendance-sheet errors that affected their pay, according to the inspector general reports.**

**At least three staff members faced discipline as a result, although their punishment for the time-keeping irregularities was ultimately overturned. Some staffers also received poor performance reviews, which affected their compensation and careers.**

The actions sent a chill through the command. Other staff members said it was clear Losey was targeting people he suspected of being snitches.

"I don't understand why Brian did what he did. He went hard over stupid on it," said a senior military official who knew Losey well and served at the time with the U.S. Africa Command, the parent command for Losey's group.

"He was concerned about disloyalty. But as I had another commander tell me, loyalty goes both ways," said the military official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the confidentiality of the investigations.

**In the end, it turned out that Losey had the wrong people on his list of suspects.**

**Investigators determined that none of the people he retaliated against had filed the original complaint about his daughter's plane ticket.**

Losey sharply disputed the inspector general's findings even before it completed the first of the five investigations in August 2013. In one letter, his attorney accused the inspector general of "investigative improprieties" and being "fatally tainted by bias."

**"The Inspector General Disagreed With Losey's Objections And Concluded That He Had Committed Reprisals In Three Of The Cases"**

**In testimony, Losey denied retaliating against anyone. He said he was just a tough and demanding commander who didn't hesitate to hold subordinates accountable for mediocre work. He also questioned the credibility of several witnesses.**

**The inspector general disagreed with Losey's objections and concluded that he had committed reprisals in three of the cases.**

Under the law, however, the inspector general lacked the authority to do much about it. The only step the office could take was to recommend that the Navy take "appropriate action" against Losey.

As he fought to keep his job, Losey received the backing of some key military leaders.

In 2013, Army Gen. Carter F. Ham, the four-star commander of Africa Command, sought out the Navy's top uniformed officer at the time, Adm. Jonathan Greenert, to voice support for Losey's candidacy for a plum new assignment: leader of the Navy's Special Warfare Command.

"I was very supportive of that and highly complementary," Ham, who has since retired from the Army, said in an interview. "I knew there were allegations out there, and I thought it was important for Admiral Greenert to hear from me."

Ham said he was aware of the inspector-general investigations but was not privy to details of the -cases, which remained confidential at that stage. He said he had the impression that civilian staff members were unhappy with Losey's aggressive style and

the admiral's desire to ramp up the command's operations. "I think that was at the core of why some of the civilian employees were disgruntled," Ham said.

Losey, he added, "is a very direct guy. There's not a lot of nuance with him, and I think that might have caused some of the friction."

Losey won the Special Warfare Command assignment shortly afterward.

**The inspector general took two more years to wrap up its cases against Losey. Despite the findings that Losey had violated whistleblower-protection laws, the Navy's leadership concluded that he had acted within his duties and responsibilities as a commander, a senior Navy official familiar with the case said.**

**The official said the Navy issued Losey a formal letter of counseling this month, advising him to be thoughtful and careful when handling such matters in the future but finding no wrongdoing on his part.**

**Meanwhile, the inspector general also recommended that the armed forces take action against two colonels who served as senior aides to Losey. Investigators determined that they had punished suspected whistleblowers, effectively acting on behalf of the admiral.**

One of the aides, Air Force Col. Richard Samuels, now assigned as an instructor at the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, denied retaliating against anyone. "No, I did no such thing," he said in a brief phone interview.

"I would have known if I was firing people and so forth." **[Classic command stupid. T]**

A Maxwell Air Force Base spokesman, Lt. Col. Dave Huxsoll, said officials "are in the process of determining what, if any, appropriate administrative action will be taken" against Samuels.

The other senior aide, Army Col. Michael Franck, has since retired from the military.

In a statement, the Army said it reviewed the inspector general's findings but "elected not to take action." Franck did not respond to e-mails seeking comment.

### **YOUR INVITATION:**

**Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org):**

**Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## 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**

**Ask for work. If they do not give you work, ask for bread. If they do not give you work or bread, then take bread.”**

**– Emma Goldman**

## **FBI Counterterrorism Agent Wistfully Recalls Watching 20-Year-Old Muslim- American Grow Up**



Agent Tierney says he'll never forget the anxiety and concern he felt when a 16-year-old Haddad began driving around town on his own

October 27, 2015 The Onion

HOUGHTON, MI—Saying he could hardly believe how much the young man had changed over the past eight years, a visibly sentimental FBI counterterrorism agent fondly recalled Tuesday watching 20-year-old Muslim-American Omar Haddad grow up.

While speaking with reporters, Special Agent David Tierney repeatedly paused to marvel at how quickly the time had slipped by, striking a bittersweet tone as he described what it had been like to see the young Muslim boy mature and come into his own as he studied for his classes, made friends, played on the school baseball team, and prayed at his local mosque every Friday.

“Sometimes it feels like it was just yesterday that I was watching little 12-year-old Omar get on the bus and head off to seventh grade, but I guess time really flies,” said the FBI agent, expressing amazement at how a middle-schooler who had seemed so shy when talking to girls on the phone could become so confident and self-assured in his conversations as an adult.

“God, I remember seeing him on his first date, just this scrawny teenager at a 7 p.m. showing of Captain America trying to work up the courage to put his arm around a girl. Look at him now—handsome, popular, and getting straights A’s in his junior year at Michigan Tech.”

“And to think we’ve been right there with him every step of the way,” Tierney added.

As he looked through an immense collection of photos and videos from the boy’s youth, the agent reported that watching Haddad grow up had been stressful at times, particularly during a brief period in 2011 when it appeared the young man was falling in with a bad crowd.

But just a year or two later, he said, Haddad’s priorities had changed significantly, and Tierney was soon traveling around the country as the boy toured prospective colleges.

“I’ll never forget how nervous he was on his first day of high school—so were we, of course,” said Tierney, recalling in detail the apprehension on Haddad’s face and the brand-new Jansport backpack slung over his shoulder as he walked into school that day.

“But his teenage years went pretty smoothly, all things considered. Sure, sometimes he would stay out a little late, which would cause us to worry, but he never went anywhere he wasn’t supposed to. Omar was the kind of kid who would always finish his homework before he would hang out with friends or goof around online.”

“I suppose he would’ve been pretty mad if he’d found out we were reading his texts and snooping around his favorite websites,” he continued. “But you need to know what they’re getting up to, especially at that age. It’s just your job.”

After letting out a sigh and asking himself where the time had gone, Tierney confirmed he would continue to keep an eye on the young man as he made his way in the adult world. The 13-year veteran of the FBI’s counterterrorism division added that, whatever Haddad chose to do with his life, he was sure it would be a success.

“I just wish I could say as much for his younger brother,” Tierney said. “We’re definitely going to have to get a lot more involved with that kid.”

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## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

### **October 31, 1978: Honorable Anniversary**



Striking Iranian oil workers: Photo: December 1978 issue of Resistance, A publication of the Iranian Students Association in the U.S. (ISAUS)



Thirty thousand Iranian oil workers went on strike against the repressive rule of the U.S.-installed Shah and for democracy, civil and human rights.

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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## **Egypt -- Strike In Mahalla: 14,000 Workers At Two Of Egypt's Largest Textile Companies On Strike Over Unpaid Bonuses Promised By President Sisi**

27 October 2015 by Mada Masr, International Viewpoint

Several thousands of workers at two of Egypt's largest textile companies — the Kafr al-Dawwar Textile Company and the Misr Spinning and Weaving Company in Mahalla al-Kubra — are on strike over unpaid bonuses promised by President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

Sisi decreed last month that the 10 percent bonuses would be paid retroactively from July to all employees in the public works sector.

Thousands of workers at the Misr Spinning and Weaving Company, located in the Nile Delta Governorate of Gharbiya, have been on strike for the past six days. Thousands of other workers joined them on Sunday, launching an open-ended strike at the Kafr al-Dawwar Textile Company.

In response to the strike in Mahalla, administrators suspended three workers without pay, accusing them of “instigating strike action” and “obstructing production.”

Administrators have accused striking workers of incurring millions of pounds worth of losses for the company, which is already in debt to the tune of nearly LE2 billion.

Kamal al-Fayoumy, a worker leader at the company — who was sacked several months ago on charges of instigating strikes — told Mada Masr: “On Thursday, three workers were suspended after administrators accused them of leading work stoppages. However, they have not been officially dismissed from work.” He added that there has been talk of reinstating them.

Despite such punitive measures, an estimated 14,000 workers (from a total of over 17,000) at the company are continuing with their strike, with an escalation on Saturday, when they moved from a partial strike to a comprehensive strike.

According to Fayoumy, all the factories and production lines at the Misr Spinning and Weaving Company have come to a standstill, with the exception of the administration, security personnel, and local utilities employees.

Mahalla’s striking workers have also been demanding their monthly allocations of LE90 for food, which company administrators have pledged since May.

Fayoumy reported that the administrators of the Misr Spinning and Weaving Company are claiming that the Holding Company for Textile Industries, which manages 32 state-owned textile mills, are the ones responsible for providing the 10 percent bonus. But the Holding Company is claiming it is the Finance Ministry that is responsible.

“All these state officials and administrators are washing their hands of responsibility for the payment of the bonus decreed by President Sisi,” Fayoumy said.

Thousands of workers at the Kafr al-Dawwar Textile Company (located in the Nile Delta Governorate of Beheira) launched a strike, along with factory-occupations and a sit-in on Sunday, demanding the payment of their overdue 10 percent bonuses.

Citing workers at the company, the state-owned Middle East News Agency reported that the strike would continue indefinitely until administrators pay up.

Quoting local union committee president, Shaaban al-Baghdady, MENA reported that the non-payment of this officially-decreed bonus is likely to contribute to widening income disparities and “inequality amongst the ranks of public sector workers.”

The state-controlled Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF) has reportedly been negotiating with 20 local union committees to encourage them to end the strike.

On Thursday, the privately-owned Youm7 news portal reported that ETUF chiefs had reached an agreement with the unions to halt the strikes.

The ETUF executive council's leadership expired in 2011, and since then the Ministry of Manpower has been handpicking and appointing the ETUF's board. In May this year, Sisi issued a decree which further extends the terms of these unelected officials by another year.

The ETUF website made no mention of the strikes over the non-payment of the 10 percent bonuses, instead it dedicated several of its pages to congratulating ETUF President Gebali al-Maraghi, and two other leaders of the federation, for winning seats in this year's parliamentary elections. Maraghi and the two other ETUF leaders were running under the pro-Sisi For the Love of Egypt list.

### **MORE:**

## **Ultimatum Expires But Mahallah Workers Continue Strike**

October 28, 2015 by Aswat Masriya, [allafrica.com/](http://allafrica.com/)

CAIRO - Workers in Egypt's largest public sector textile company in Mahallah city north of Cairo continued to strike on Wednesday, despite the expiry of a 48-hour ultimatum by the labour minister.

The strike in the Misr Spinning and Weaving Company is in its eighth day, as workers demand a 10 percent social bonus promised by President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in September to be paid retroactively starting July.

The social bonus seems to have been lost in translation as complex, at times conflicting laws were issued this year.

According to a Facebook post by labor rights advocates The Revolutionary Socialists group late Wednesday, which Aswat Masriya could not independently verify, the management has suspended seven workers who will be investigated for their role in encouraging the strike. They say the factory is losing EGP 4 million a day because of halted production.

After meetings with local officials, Labor Minister Gamal Sorour said on Monday evening workers must resume production immediately so that within 48 hours Prime Minister Sherif Ismail would reach a "suitable agreement for them," warning that "legal measures will be taken against any attempts to obstruct work."

Workers at the company were outraged at his statement, saying that he is imposing a "condition" instead of resolving the crisis.

On Tuesday, cracks began to appear between striking workers and heads of departments in the company, as the latter tried to resume production at the company's gas and power stations but failed to do so.

Workers at the industrial city of Mahallah have a long history of labour struggles. In 2008, they had planned a strike which pro-democracy activists supported through online campaigns to protest against the increased cost of living and low wages.

Even though the strike never took place, calls for solidarity led to street clashes with police and the birth of the April 6 Youth Movement, one of the groups that electrified the January 2011 uprising.

**The current strike comes amid heightened urban consumer inflation which jumped to 9.2 percent in September, according to the official statistics agency CAPMAS.**

It also comes during difficult economic times in Egypt, which is still reeling from the aftermath of years of social and economic turmoil following the uprising.

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## **DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK**

# **Iceland Jails Dozens Of Bankers For Total Of 74 Years: “The Prosecutions Are The Result Of Iceland’s Banksters Manipulating The Icelandic Financial Markets” “An Accumulation Of Foreign Debt Resulted In A Meltdown Of The Entire Banking Sector In 2008”**

October 21, 2015 By Jay Symopoulos, [TheFreeThoughtProject.com](http://TheFreeThoughtProject.com)

Reykjavík, Iceland – In stark contrast to the record low number of prosecutions of CEO’s and high-level financial executives in the U.S., Iceland has just sentenced 26 bankers to a combined 74 years in prison.

The majority of those convicted have been sentenced to prison terms of two to five years. The maximum penalty in Iceland for financial crimes is six years, although hearings are currently underway to consider extending the maximum beyond six years.

The prosecutions are the result of Iceland's bankers manipulating the Icelandic financial markets after Iceland deregulated their finance sector in 2001. Eventually, an accumulation of foreign debt resulted in a meltdown of the entire banking sector in 2008.

According to Iceland Magazine:

"In two separate rulings last week, the Supreme Court of Iceland and the Reykjavík District Court sentenced three top managers of Landsbankinn and two top managers of Kaupping, along with one prominent investor, to prison for crimes committed in the lead-up to the financial collapse of 2008.



**"With these rulings the number of bankers and financiers who have been sentenced to prison for crimes relating to the financial collapse has reached 26, and a combined prison time of 74 years."**

Massive debts were incurred in the name of the Icelandic public, to allow the country to continue to function, which are still being repaid to the IMF and other nations eight years later by the citizens of Iceland.

In contrast to the U.S., Iceland has chosen to hold the criminals that manipulated their financial system accountable under the law.

In the U.S., not a single banking executive was charged with crimes related to the 2008 financial crisis, even though the U.S. itself precipitated the crisis.

Icelandic President, Olafur Ragnar Grímsson summed it up best in his response when asked how his country recovered from the global financial crisis.

"We were wise enough not to follow the traditional prevailing orthodoxies of the Western financial world in the last 30 years. We introduced currency controls, we let the banks fail, we provided support for the people and didn't introduce austerity measures like you're seeing in Europe."

While Iceland has prosecuted those that caused their financial crisis, America has done the opposite. In 2008, after Congress bailed out the failing American banks to the tune

of \$700 billion dollars, courtesy of the American taxpayer, many of the executives of institutions that received TARP bailout funds ended up getting large bonuses!

The prosecution of the Icelandic banksters represents an accountability that does not exist in the United States of America.

It seems clear that the financial “Masters of the Universe” are the ones that truly control the political apparatus in the U.S., making it obvious there is no one who is going to hold them accountable for manipulating and crashing the financial markets.

Please share this article to help expose who really controls the political system in the United States!!

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## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

# **Zionist Soldiers To Palestinians:**

**“We Will Gas You Until You Die”**

**“The Children, The Youth, And The Old  
People, All Of You – We Won’t Spare Any  
Of You”**

**“We Have Arrested One Of You, He’s  
With Us Now”**

**“We Took Him From His Home, And We  
Will Kill Him While You’re Watching As  
Long As You Throw Stones”**

31 October 15 By Megan Hanna, Ma'an News

**On October 29, Israeli military forces issued a disturbing message to residents of Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem, telling them that unless they stopped throwing stones “we will gas you until you die.”**

Israeli military forces raided the camp and fired tear gas and flash grenades indiscriminately at people's windows, balconies, and down the narrow streets, allegedly in response to Palestinian youths throwing stones at the Israeli separation wall that borders the community.

During the raid, an Israeli soldier in a military vehicle addressed the protesters and residents of the camp through a loudspeaker in Arabic. The disturbing incident was caught on film.

**“Inhabitants of Aida, we are the Israeli occupation forces, if you throw stones we will hit you with gas until you die. The children, the youth, and the old people, all of you – we won't spare any of you”.**

**During the assault of the protesters, Qassan Abu Aker, 25, was arrested. The speakerphone announcement continued, “We have arrested one of you, he's with us now. We took him from his home, and we will kill him while you're watching as long as you throw stones.”**

**The chilling message concluded: “We will blind your eyes with gas until you die, your homes, your families, brothers, sons, everyone”.**

Subsequently after the announcement, Israeli forces fired tear gas and rubber-coated steel bullets indiscriminately in the streets.

The use of force was so extreme that children from Aida's two community centers and residents of nearby houses had to be evacuated to another part of the camp, and at least one youth was taken to hospital with respiratory problems.

The clashes are part of a spate of violence that has unfolded across Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory over the past month, in which at least 64 Palestinians and 9 Israelis have been killed.

**Alongside the disconcerting language used to inspire terror among the residents - - the majority of whom weren't involved in the stone throwing -- the film provides evidence of a member of the Israeli army admitting to the potentially lethal application of tear gas.**

**Last week, on Oct. 21, Hashem al-Azzeh, 54, died in Hebron due to excessive tear gas inhalation used by Israeli forces to subdue protesters, and two days earlier an elderly woman in the Batan el-Hawa area of Silwan, East Jerusalem, died from the effects of tear gas fired during clashes.**

“In this statement, we see -- among a range of potential criminal offences -- a public threat to kill Palestinian civilians, and to execute a prisoner,” Simon Reynolds, Legal Advocacy Coordinator at the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, told Ma'an.

**“Though such threats are appalling, they are not necessarily surprising. In light of the mounting civilian death toll among Palestinians, such threats merely add words to the deed.**

“What we are seeing is an apparent policy of lawlessness in which Israeli forces can wield deadly force with virtual impunity. Especially troubling is that this is a policy that seems to have, at the very minimum, the tacit acceptance of the highest levels of government.”

Numerous rights groups have publicly condemned Israel’s disproportionate military response while policing demonstrations and responding to alleged attacks.

“Indiscriminate or deliberate firing on observers and demonstrators who pose no imminent threat violates the international standards that bind Israeli security forces,” Kenneth Roth, executive director of Humans Rights Watch said on Oct. 11, after a HRW research assistant was shot and injured while observing a demonstration near Ramallah.

Earlier this week, Amnesty International demanded that Israel stop unlawful killings in occupied Palestinian territory, stating that Israeli forces appeared to have “ripped up the rulebook.”

“There is mounting evidence that, as tensions have risen dramatically, in some cases Israeli forces appear to have ripped up the rulebook and resorted to extreme and unlawful measures,” Philip Luther, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Amnesty International said.

“Intentional lethal force should only be used when absolutely necessary to protect life,” he added. “Instead we are increasingly seeing Israeli forces recklessly flouting international standards by shooting to kill in situations where it is completely unjustified.”

In February last year, Amnesty released a report entitled 'Trigger-happy', which found that Israeli forces display a “callous disregard” for human life, with near total impunity for the killing of Palestinian civilians in cases examined since 2011.

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**Zionist Settler Attacks Rabbi  
Helping Palestinian Farmers:  
“He Spotted Settlers Stealing Olives  
And Burning Groves That Belong To  
Local Villagers”  
“After He Confronted The Settlers, One  
Of Them Assaulted Him With Stones And  
A Knife”**



October 23, 2015 by Ehab Zahriyeh, Al Jazeera America

A knife-wielding Israeli settler on Friday attacked a peace activist in the West Bank, where the activist was volunteering to protect Palestinian farmers from such assaults during the ongoing olive harvest season.

The attack, captured on video, underscores longtime complaints by Palestinians of harassment and assaults by Israeli settlers.

Rabbi Arik Asherman, president of Rabbis for Human Rights, was returning from helping farmers in the Palestinian village of Awarta, near the Israeli settlement of Itamar, when he spotted settlers stealing olives and burning groves that belong to local villagers.

After he confronted the settlers, one of them assaulted him with stones and a knife.

Asherman was not stabbed and only suffered minor injuries.

Yariv Mohar, a representative of Rabbis for Human Rights, told Al Jazeera that the attack was only the “tip of the iceberg of what Palestinians are going through.”

“If (Asherman) wasn’t a Jew, then the attack might have been much more severe,” Mohar said.

“But for Palestinians, this is daily or weekly way of life especially.”

Mohar said that members of his organization, as well as other Israeli and international peace activists, regularly volunteer to accompany Palestinian farmers as they work on their lands. The activists’ presence often serves as a deterrent to would-be Israeli attackers who are wary of being captured on film.

The activists are also able to access Palestinian-owned lands that the Israeli military has designated as off-limits to Palestinians, which helps the farmers fully harvest their crops.

More than 500,000 Israelis live in settlements throughout the West Bank and East Jerusalem. All settlements are illegal under international law.

Human rights organizations, including Israeli group B’Tselem, have long complained that Israeli settlers harass and assault Palestinians with impunity.

Israeli settlers were spotted on Oct. 18 in the Palestinian village of Al Janeena stealing olives, according Rabbi for Human Rights. “The theft was reported to police as it was occurring in real time yet no arrests were made,” the group said in a news release.

Police were called on Friday when Ascherman was attacked, but arrived 30 minutes later, giving the assailant ample time to escape.

Both the Israeli military and police force told Al Jazeera that they were unaware of the attack on Asherman.

B'Tselem documented numerous attacks by settlers in October. One of the incidents caught on video shows Israeli forces standing idle at the scene of settlers assaulting Palestinians.

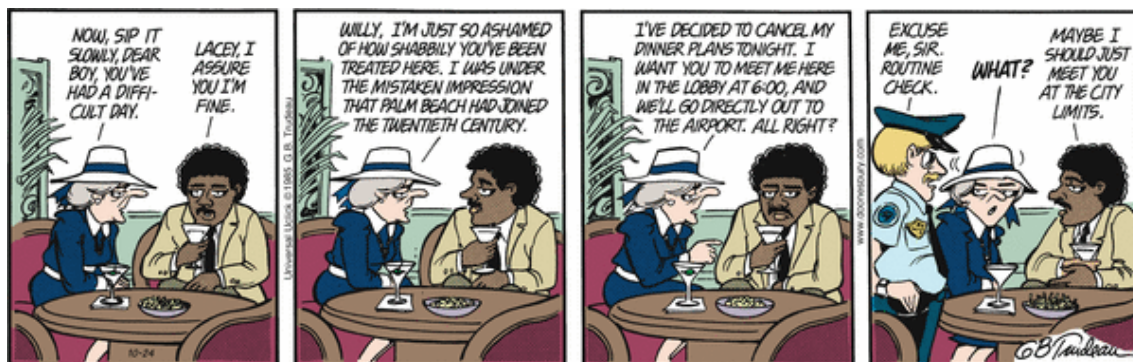
From 2005 to 2014, Palestinians filed 246 complaints against settlers for damaging trees and farmland in the West Bank, according to human rights group Yesh Din. Only four of those cases led to indictments, the group said. Most were closed due to "investigative failures."

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



## Death Row Inmate Given Chance To End Life Before They Try New Execution Drug On Him

October 26, 2015 The Onion

CHILLICOTHE, OH — Noting that the effects of the untested chemical combination remain unknown, Chillicothe Correctional Institution guard Matt Bozarth told reporters Monday he is giving an inmate on death row every chance to end his life before the facility tries out new execution drugs on him.

"It'll still be a few weeks before the state gets ahold of enough drugs for this new cocktail, so until then, I thought it would be nice to give him every opportunity he needs to get the job done himself," said Bozarth, adding that he has made sure to repeatedly linger at the far end of the corridor during his nightly rounds.

“I keep reminding him of the execution date just to give him a heads-up, and I slid an extra set of sheets into his cell. Hopefully he took the hint.” Bozarth added that he was also turning a blind eye to contraband to give the inmate a far better shot at successfully completing the task on his own.

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



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