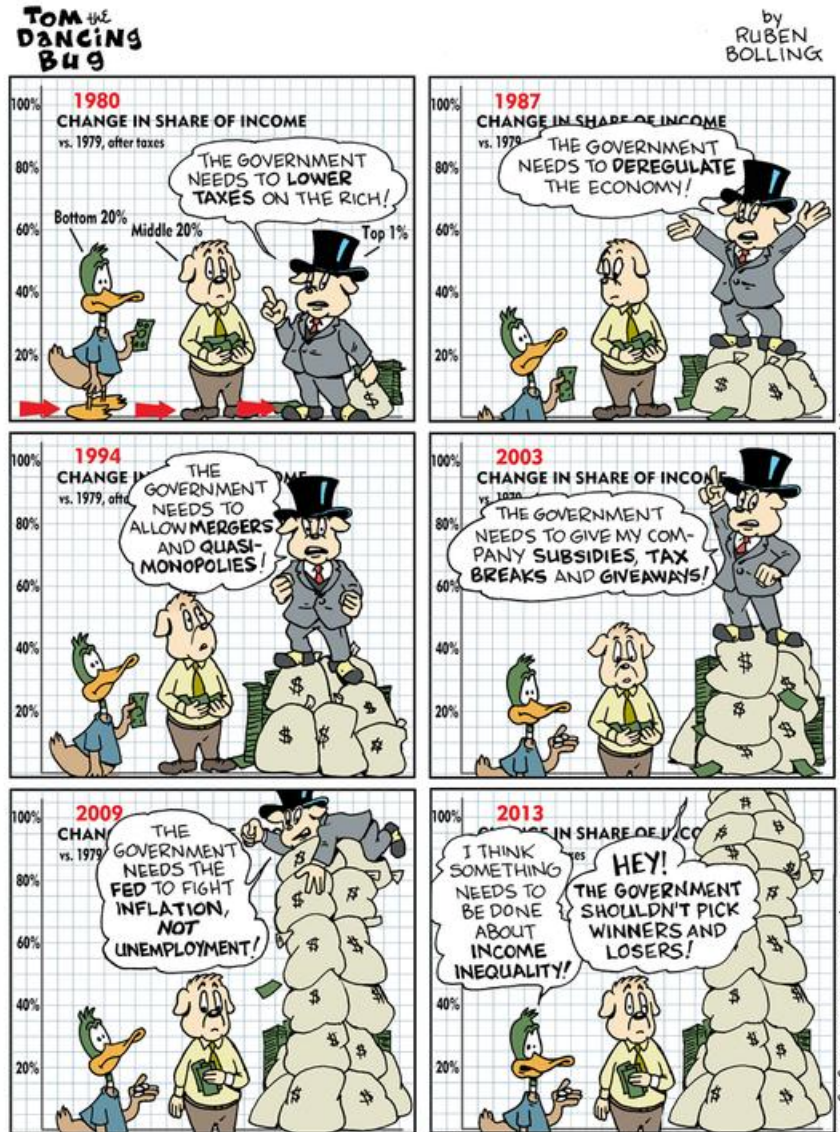


## Military Resistance 14E1



**May Day 2016:**  
**“A Boost In Class Consciousness  
Will Come About, At Some Point,  
As The Result Of The Same**

# **Conditions That Are Fueling The Anger And Fear That Trump Now Exploits”**

**“When Better Days Dawn, When The Working Class Of The World Has Won Its Deliverance, Then Too Humanity Will Probably Celebrate May Day”**

**“In Honor Of The Bitter Struggles And The Many Sufferings Of The Past”**



Fitz Reid, President, Local 768

**May 1, 2016 by Fitz Reid, President, Local 768, New York City Health Care Employees, District Council 37 AFSCME**

**Sisters and Brothers,**

**Today is an important day around the world -- because of what happened here in our own country 130 years ago.**

**Our union movement rests on the sacrifices of many who went before us. It's important that we know this history and understand that our own sacrifices are also necessary to continue the union movement.**

Here are some words to reflect upon.

What happened 130 years ago -- and what did slavery have to do with it?

This year marks the 130th anniversary of the May 4, 1886, rally at Haymarket Square in Chicago, called to protest a police riot the day before. Many people know the story of the anarchists and socialists framed up and executed or sentenced to life in prison for the explosion of a bomb at that May 4 demonstration.

The Haymarket martyrs were pioneers of the movement for the eight-hour day. But even pioneers have a back story.

On this anniversary, it's worth taking a peek at that background — and it's also illuminating to think about the profound meaning of the fight for a shorter workday.

### **May Day's Pre-History:**

The Haymarket martyrs stood on the shoulders of fighters who preceded them.

Karl Marx gives credit to the abolition of slavery for sparking new life in the U.S. labor movement.

This is what he wrote in his major work, "Capital," published in 1867:

**"In the United States of North America, every independent movement of the workers was paralyzed so long as slavery disfigured a part of the Republic.**

**"Labor cannot emancipate itself in the white skin where in the black it is branded. But out of the death of slavery a new life at once arose. The first fruit of the Civil War was the eight hours' agitation that ran with the seven-leagued boots of the locomotive from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from New England to California."**

"The General Congress of labor at Baltimore (August 16th, 1866) declared: 'The first and great necessity of the present, to free the labor of this country from capitalistic slavery, is the passing of a law by which eight hours shall be the normal working-day in all States of the American Union. We are resolved to put forth all our strength until this glorious result is attained.'

"At the same time, the Congress of the International Working Men's Association at Geneva, on the proposition of the London General Council, resolved that 'the limitation of the working-day is a preliminary condition without which all further attempts at improvement and emancipation must prove abortive ... the Congress proposes eight hours as the legal limit of the working-day.'"

Although the movement for the shorter workday had its ebbs before reaching high tide almost 20 years after Marx wrote those words, his ability to see the dynamics at work among things — slave labor and free labor, the U.S. movement and the European movement — allowed him to also see the shape of the future.

The hours that go into making up the workday mean different things to the people who sell the labor and those who buy it.

For the worker, each hour of work is an hour spent to acquire the means of survival — and an hour not spent with friends or family, on creative pursuits, studying, being politically active, resting, or just happily being a couch potato.

For the person who buys this worker's labor-power, every hour that creates economic value beyond the amount the boss has to pay the worker produces what Marxists call surplus value. In essence, this is time the worker gives the corporate owner for free.

**The struggle over the length of the workday is, at heart, about how much time employees spend working for themselves, and how much for the employers. The class struggle doesn't get any more basic than this.**

Marx discusses the stakes for workers in *Capital*.

“What is a working-day? What is the length of time during which capital may consume the labor-power whose daily value it buys?” ... To these questions capital replies: the working-day contains the full 24 hours, with the deduction of the few hours of repose without which labor-power absolutely refuses its services again. ... Time for education, for intellectual development, for the fulfilling of social functions and for social intercourse, for the free-play of his bodily and mental activity, even the rest time of Sunday — moonshine!

“But in its blind unrestrainable passion, its werewolf hunger for surplus-labor, capital oversteps not only the moral, but even the merely physical maximum bounds of the working-day.

“It usurps the time for growth, development, and healthy maintenance of the body. It steals the time required for the consumption of fresh air and sunlight.

“It haggles over meal-time, incorporating it where possible with the process of production itself, so that food is given to the laborer as to a mere means of production, as coal is supplied to the boiler, grease and oil to the machinery. It reduces the sound sleep needed for the restoration, reparation, refreshment of the bodily powers. ...

“Capital cares nothing for the length of life of labor-power. All that concerns it is simply and solely the maximum of labor-power that can be rendered fluent in a working-day. It attains this end by shortening the extent of the laborer's life, as a greedy farmer snatches increased produce from the soil by robbing it of its fertility.”

### **Looking Ahead:**

Today, with the eight-hour day a reality on paper, adults employed full time in the U.S. work an average of a soul-sucking 47 hours a week.

Meanwhile, the real unemployment rate is above 20 percent, when people who have given up looking for work in discouragement are counted. Even the government's own figures acknowledge that 7.8 million people are jobless.

The answer to both problems is a renewed fight to shorten the workday — with no cut in pay. This may seem pie-in-the-sky, in these days of reactionary Trumpism.

But a boost in class consciousness will come about, at some point, as the result of the same conditions that are fueling the anger and fear that Trump now exploits.

Key to this development will be tenacious education by today's descendants of those radicals and labor militants who launched the fight for the eight-hour day in the 1800s.

As preeminent European socialist Rosa Luxemburg wrote in an 1894 article:

“As long as the struggle of the workers against ... the ruling class continues, as long as all demands are not met, May Day will be the yearly expression of these demands. And, when better days dawn, when the working class of the world has won its deliverance, then too humanity will probably celebrate May Day in honor of the bitter struggles and the many sufferings of the past.”

Fraternally,  
Fitz Reid President Local 768 DC 37 AFSCME

**MORE:**

## “The Ground Is On Fire Upon Which You Stand”



August Vincent Theodore Spies, upholsterer, radical labor activist, and newspaper editor. found guilty of conspiracy following the Haymarket affair. In 1887 Spies was executed in the aftermath of this event.

(Wikipedia}

August Spies said during his trial:

**“(I)f you think that by hanging us you can stamp out the labor movement — the movement from which the downtrodden millions, the millions who toil and live in want and misery, the wage slaves, expect salvation — if this is your opinion, then hang us!**

**“Here you will tread upon a spark, but here, and there and behind you, and in front of you, and everywhere the flames will blaze up.**

**“It is a subterranean fire. You cannot put it out.**

**“The ground is on fire upon which you stand.”**

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Supporters Of Muqtada Al-Sadr Breach Baghdad’s Fortified Green Zone And Storm Iraq Parliament:**

**“They Chanted, ‘The Cowards Ran  
Away,’ Referring To The Members  
Of Parliament”**

**“Sadr Said He Was ‘Waiting For The  
Great Popular Uprising And The  
Major Revolution To Stop The March  
Of The Corrupt’”**

# **“Either Corrupt And Quotas Do Not Remain Or The Entire Government Will Be Brought Down And No One Will Be Exempted”**



Shia protesters unfurled banners after storming the Iraqi Parliament building. (photo: Reuters)

APRIL 30, 2016 By Mohammed Tawfeeq, Alanne Orjoux and Jomana Karadsheh, CNN & Susannah George, Associated Press & By Stephen Kalin and Ahmed Rasheed, Reuters [Excerpts]

The situation was tense in Baghdad by nightfall Saturday after hundreds, if not thousands, of protesters angry at government inaction stormed the city's Green Zone and the Iraqi Parliament building.

Video showed protesters attacking a white, armored SUV with sticks and other objects on Saturday.

**Local television showed them chanting and taking pictures of themselves inside the main chamber where moments earlier lawmakers had met.**

**It was the first time the fortified zone housing government buildings and the U.S. Embassy has been penetrated since 2003.**

Images broadcast on state-run news channel Al-Iraqiya showed protesters carrying Iraqi flags walking freely in the Green Zone and gathering in the halls and meeting rooms in Parliament.

They chanted, “The cowards ran away,” referring to the members of Parliament.

**No large-scale violence has been reported, although Hoshiar Abdullah, a Kurdish member of Parliament, told Kurdish television network Rudaw that the deputy speaker and five other Kurdish lawmakers were trapped inside the building and had been attacked by protesters who also smashed their cars.**

The protests were sparked by a fiery speech from Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who was speaking from the city of Najaf, about 100 miles south of the capital.

**In a televised speech from the holy city of Najaf announcing a two-month withdrawal from public life, Sadr said he was “waiting for the great popular uprising and the major revolution to stop the march of the corrupt.”**

He’s been railing against the Iraqi government for months, warning that his supporters would enter the Green Zone if the government didn’t take steps to deal with the economic crisis the country is facing, as well as eradicate corruption and make reforms.

**Moments before the Green Zone breach, Sadr seemed to offer an ultimatum: “Either corrupt (officials) and quotas do not remain or the entire government will be brought down and no one will be exempted.”**

While al-Sadr didn’t call for an escalation to the protests, shortly after his remarks his supporters began scaling the compound’s walls.

**A group of young men then pulled down a section of concrete blast walls to cheers from the crowd of thousands gathered in the streets outside.**

**Cellphone video uploaded to social media showed dozens of young men running through the halls of parliament, chanting slogans in support of al-Sadr and calling for the government to disband.**

**“We are all with you (al-Sadr),” one group of men yelled as they entered the building’s main chamber.**

**Shiite lawmaker Ammar Taama -- also the head of the Shiite Fadhl faction in Parliament -- was reportedly beaten by some protesters, possibly due to his past comments criticizing Sadr.**

Increasingly tense protests and a series of failed reform measures have paralyzed Iraq’s government as the country struggles to fight the Islamic State group and respond to an economic crisis sparked in part by a plunge in global oil prices.

The protests Saturday come just days after a visit by US Vice President Joe Biden, who said he was in Iraq to shore up national unity, The Christian Science Monitor reported.

U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner issued this statement: “Under the Vienna Convention, all diplomatic missions are protected by the host country’s security forces.

**“We have full confidence that the Iraqi Security Forces will meet its obligation.” [Lots of luck with that. T]**

Security had already been heightened in Baghdad due to a planned Shiite pilgrimage to Kadumiya Monday and Tuesday.



Rumors flew that some politicians were trying to flee the protests, but an official at the Baghdad airport told Al-Iraqiya no officials were at the airport trying to leave the country. [Later, the official was observed leaving the country. T]

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## **POLICE WAR REPORTS**

### **“Jeremy Lett Was Shot In The Torso Five Times While Walking Outside His Apartment”**

### **His Attacker, David Stith, A Police Officer, “Had A History Of Violent, Erratic Behavior”**

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Veteran & Military Initiative Organizing Committee, who sent this in.]

APRIL 29, 2016 by PAUL KRANE, CounterPunch [Excerpt]

On February 5, 2015, Jeremy Lett was physically attacked, then shot in the torso five times while walking outside his apartment. He died in the hospital the next day.

His attacker, David Stith, had a history of violent, erratic behavior – at one point a little over a year earlier, Stith entered a Girl Scouts of America office and began “acting aggressively and screaming obscenities”.

On February 27, a grand jury cleared Stith of all wrongdoing in the shooting.

David Stith was (and still is) a police officer.

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## **Police Chief Told Reporters Gongora “Charged” At Officers With Knife, Then He Was Killed By Police:**

**“Witnesses Come Forward To Challenge That Account”**  
**“I Would By No Stretch Of The Imagination Say That He Was Charging Them. His Body Was Recoiling From Bullets”**  
**“It’s Like They Came Out Shooting. They Just Jumped Right Out And 20 Seconds Later He Was Dead”**



Luis Gongora’s blue tent on Shotwell Street in the Mission district. Gongora was killed by San Francisco police on Thursday. Photograph: Dan Tufts for the Guardian

11 April 2016 by Julia Carrie Wong in San Francisco, The Guardian [Excerpts]

The morning after a homeless man in San Francisco was shot and killed by police, someone else had moved into his tent.

“I can’t say nothing,” the new occupant said before moving into the small blue and grey tent on the sidewalk. “It’s done.”

The death of a homeless man on a busy California street is not uncommon. Neither, in a country in which 1,134 people died at the hands of law enforcement last year, are fatal police shootings.

Yet the story of how 45-year-old Luis Gongora was killed this week, pieced together from friends and neighbors – both those who sleep in tents and others who have roofs over their heads – raises alarming questions.

San Francisco police have released few details in a public relations campaign that appears intended to justify, before the completion of any investigation, the decision by two officers to shoot seven bullets from their .40-caliber service pistols.

Many locals in the Mission district of the city knew Gongora merely as a friendly Latino man who was always kicking a soccer ball against a wall.

One person who knew him a little better was the homeless man who, less than 24 hours after Gongora's shooting, was occupying his tent.

Like Gongora, Javier Chab Dzul, 40, was from Mexico. Previously, he had been sleeping in another tent, on the same block, under the same giant Ficus trees that provide shade to around a dozen residents in tents.

Gongora was shot and killed by two police officers on Thursday, shortly after 10.00am.

Police say they were called to the scene by members of the city's homeless outreach team who reported a "suspect waving a large kitchen knife". Two of the responding officers opened fire – first with beanbag rounds and then with live ammunition.

Shortly after the shooting, police chief Greg Suhr told reporters that after the initial volley of beanbag rounds, Gongora "charged" at the officers with the knife. The officers then opened fire with live rounds.

That claim has been disputed by witnesses, including other residents of the encampment such as Grant and her partner John Visor, both witnesses to the incident.

Gongora was transported to a local hospital where he was declared dead around 1pm.

The shooting took place on Shotwell street, the same block as the homeless encampment where Gongora lived.

A few minutes earlier, Gongora had been hanging out in the tent of his best friend, Markale Raybon.

"I can see his face in my head," Raybon recalled Friday, as he sat in his tent – a bright orange shelter next to the one that used to be Gongora's and has now been inherited by Dzul.

Inside Raybon's tent were crammed two collapsible lawn chairs, a child's circus play tent, a shopping cart, a sleeping pad and bedding. A travel toiletry kit hung from the shopping cart.

"We were just hanging out right here smoking pot, and then he walked up the street kicking the ball. The next thing I knew, I heard the throttle of a car, and then I heard someone shouting, and the shots."

Raybon sipped on a soda that another member of the encampment brought him from Burger King. Moments later, recalling his friend, he wept.

“He was my brother. He called me ‘hermano’.” The pair would help each other out, sharing whatever food or money they managed to come by. “It was half down the middle with everything.”

Raybon recalled once seeing Gongora standing on the sidewalk seemingly shouting to himself.

He thought his friend had gone “crazy” until he approached close enough to realize that Gongora was using an earpiece to talk on the phone.

That was when Raybon learned that Gongora had children with whom he stayed in touch. In the 24 hours since his death, the homeless residents have been trying to join the threads that might help them track down their friend’s surviving relatives, but in the absence of resources they have been clutching at snippets of memory.

Grant remembered Gongora also had two brothers and an ex-wife living in San Francisco. She said she thought his brothers were living in housing somewhere, and that the ex-wife was homeless and “lives over by the freeway”, but she could not be sure.

Earlier Friday, San Francisco police officials convened a press conference to reiterate their claims that Gongora had “charged” at the police officers who killed him with a knife.

Commander Greg McEachern reportedly said that one witness “saw the suspect stand up and lunge at the officers”, and that another said that Gongora “rose up with a knife in hand and ran toward the officers”.

Police also presented reporters with a photograph of the 13-inch butcher knife they said Gongora was carrying.

The San Francisco police department has faced intense criticism since December, when five police officers shot and killed 26-year-old Mario Woods, another man allegedly armed with a knife. Bystander video of that shooting appeared to contradict the police claim that Woods raised the knife toward one of the officers before the group opened fire.

**The police department’s insistence that Gongora “charged” at the officers with a knife has already prompted several witnesses to come forward to challenge that account.**

Patrick, the woman who lived opposite Gongora’s tent, and whose six-year-old son occasionally spoke with him in Spanish, is the latest to contradict the police’s version of events.

Her account, one of several provided to the Guardian, all of whom have contradicted the police’s account, could be the most significant to date.

Patrick saw the shooting from her apartment window, where she had an unobstructed view of the incident as it unfolded directly across the street.

“He never charged them. There’s no way they were going to get hurt from the knife,” she said, adding that she is “enraged” by the police department’s version of events.

Patrick posted a widely shared account of the incident on social media network Nextdoor.com shortly after the shooting. However, she said she began to doubt herself after reading news reports that quoted police chief Greg Suhr saying that Gongora had moved toward the officers with a knife.

Patrick said she assumed that Gongora had threatened the police further down the street, before she looked out the window. She assumed she must have seen an incomplete segment of the incident.

But she changed her mind Friday after viewing surveillance video obtained by the San Francisco Chronicle. The video shows the police cruisers arriving on the scene and provides audio of the gunfire, which began just 30 seconds after the officers exited their cars.

The footage did not show the shooting itself, but it was enough to convince Patrick that she had witnessed the incident in its entirety.

**Patrick said that she was sitting at one of four windows in her apartment when she heard someone shout, “Get on the ground.” She ran to the next window and saw Gongora.**

**“He was on the ground, crouched with his head between his knees,” she said.**

**She saw two police officers standing about 20 or 30 feet from Gongora, one carrying what looked like a rifle and the other with his hand at his belt. She heard two shots fired from the rifle – a less-lethal weapon that fires beanbag pellets – and then “live ammunition” being fired concurrently with additional beanbag rounds.**

**Patrick said she could differentiate the different types of ammunition because of her experience working as a film-maker in the West Bank.**

**“He didn’t get up until they were shooting,” she said. “I would by no stretch of the imagination say that he was charging them. His body was recoiling from bullets.”**

**Patrick said that the police officers were moving “parallel” to the street, toward Gongora, but that once he stood up, he was moving “perpendicular” – as if to cross the street – until he fell.**

**“It was after he was shot several times that the knife kind of fell from his body. I don’t know if it came from his hand or his pocket, but he was never like this to somebody,” Smith said, miming holding a knife up as if to threaten someone.**

**She added: “It’s like they came out shooting. It’s complete bullshit what’s happening. There’s no way that somebody deserved to lose their life.”**

**Patrick's account of the shooting fills in key details that are missing from the surveillance video, which does not show the police officers while they were shooting or any view of Gongora.**

**It also corresponds with the account of another neighbor who said that he saw the entire incident from his kitchen window, also across the street.**

"I watched the whole thing. It was absolutely fucking terrible," said the neighbor, who asked to remain anonymous out of fear of police retaliation.

"I was at the kitchen window and it all started. They shot him with the bean bag, and he turned to block the shots and gestured, like, 'What the fuck?' And that's when they shot him."

The neighbor added: "He was not really threatening. He wasn't running at them with a knife or anything like that. They just jumped right out and 20 seconds later he was dead."

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## **Baltimore Police Shoot 13-Year-Old Carrying Fake Gun: He Was Running Away When Shot From Behind**

28 April 16 By USA TODAY

Baltimore police are investigating the shooting of a 13-year-old boy who they say ran from them after they spotted him carrying what appeared to be a gun Wednesday afternoon, Commissioner Kevin Davis told reporters.

The teen was walking down the street with what appeared to be a Beretta 92FS semi-automatic pistol when two detectives from the police department's intelligence section asked him to stop, Davis said.

The teen ran and the officers chased him, one shooting him somewhere in the lower extremities, Davis said. The commissioner said he did not know how many shots were fired or how many struck the teen. He said the teen's injuries are non-fatal.

The teen's mother told police that her son left the house with what she described as a BB gun, Davis said.

"I've been a police officer for 25 years and there's no way on this earth that I could tell you from looking at that gun that it wasn't real," Davis said. "It's a 13-year-old young man, that's not lost on me, however ... I don't know why this young man chose to flee on foot when he was approached by two Baltimore police officers."

The investigation is a criminal investigation, as always is the case when a police officer fires his or her weapon, Davis said

**MORE:**

## **Baltimore Police Commissioner Blames Kid For Being Shot By Plain Clothes Policeman: “Dedric Colvin Was Carrying A Basketball And His BB Gun” “The Boy Tried To Run Away”**

30 April 16 By Carimah Townes, ThinkProgress

One day after a plainclothes cop unloaded on a fleeing eighth grader holding a toy gun, Baltimore’s police commissioner defended the shooting officer for having to make a split-second decision “in a very emotional moment.”

He also blamed the boy for his own shooting, saying he should not have had a toy gun at all.

Dedric Colvin was carrying a basketball and his BB gun when two non-uniformed officers approached him on the street. Commissioner Kevin Davis says the officers identified who they were before the boy tried to run away. Colvin allegedly stopped and turned toward the cops, which is when Officer Thomas Smith shot Colvin in the shoulder and leg.

**One unidentified, independent witness says Colvin yelled that the gun wasn’t real when he turned around. According to Davis, that witness said Colvin lifted the gun as well.**

Colvin survived the shooting and remained in the hospital Thursday as East Baltimore community members slammed the officer for unloading on a scared boy. Davis maintained that there was no choice but to shoot.

“Police officers don’t have to wait until they’re being shot to engage in a deadly force scenario,” he said at a press conference Thursday. “The only time you really know if what looks like a gun is a gun is after someone starts squeezing the trigger.”

“If a person is seen walking down a city street with one of those in his hand, what (does the community) want the police to do?” he continued, noting that the toy shouldn’t have been in Colvin’s possession. “What do they expect us to do? Drive by?”

The president of the Fraternal Order of Police at Lodge 3 agreed with Smith's call, because officers focus on what they see as a weapon and have to make a quick decision. He also placed the blame on Colvin.

"We all played cops and robbers with toy guns when we were younger, but if you have a replica and you take it out on the street, what was the intention?" he asked. He also said Colvin should have obeyed the cops' orders.

**But some Baltimore residents have already pointed out the hypocrisy of the shooting, because police gave a white bomb threat suspect multiple chances to obey commands before shooting him.**

**On Thursday, police spokesman T.J. Smith explained, the suspect appeared to have a bomb strapped to his body at a local TV station. He "came out of the building and started advancing towards officers, was not listening to any of the officers' orders."**

**Before shooting the suspect, police repeatedly told him to remove his hands from his pockets.**

Colvin's family has hired Billy Murphy to represent them. Murphy previously worked with Freddie Gray's family and won a \$6.4 million settlement. The Baltimore Police Department's Special Investigations Response Team has been tasked with investigating the shooting.

Although Colvin survived, his shooting is similar to that of 12-year-old Tamir Rice, who was killed in Cleveland for carrying a toy gun.

Officer Timothy Loehmann gunned down Rice within two seconds of exiting his police vehicle, leaving no time to issue orders to drop the fake weapon.

On Monday, the day Rice's family won a \$6 million settlement in their wrongful death settlement, the president of a local police union blamed Rice for his own death and said the family should use the money to educate other kids about "the dangers of possessing a real or replica firearm."

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## **Police Seize 11-Year-Old, Arrest His Mother: He Defended Medical Marijuana During A School Presentation;**



# **“She Fears That The State Will Now Attempt To Take Her Son Away” “Because He Stuck Up For His Mother, The State Arrested Her And Ripped Him Away From Her”**

April 17, 2015 By Radley Balko, The Washington Post

On March 24, cannabis oil activist Shona Banda's life was flipped upside-down after her son was taken from her by the State of Kansas.

The ordeal started when police and counselors at her 11-year-old son's school conducted a drug education class.

Her son, who had previously lived in Colorado for a period of time, disagreed with some of the anti-pot points that were being made by school officials.

“My son says different things like my ‘Mom calls it cannabis and not marijuana.’ He let them know how educated he was on the facts,” said Banda in an exclusive interview with BenSwann.com.

Banda successfully treated her own Crohn's disease with cannabis oil.

**After her son spoke out about medical marijuana, police detained him and launched a raid on Shona Banda's home.**

“Well, they had that drug education class at school that was just conducted by the counselors... They pulled my son out of school at about 1:40 in the afternoon and interrogated him. Police showed up at my house at 3... I let them know that they weren't allowed in my home without a warrant... I didn't believe you could get a warrant off of something a child says in school.” Banda continued,

“We waited from 3 o'clock until 6 o'clock. They got a warrant at 6 o'clock at night and executed a warrant into my home. My husband and I are separated, and neither parent was contacted by authorities before (our son) was taken and questioned.”

The police apparently found 2 ounces of cannabis oil in her home.

She fears that the state will now attempt to take her son away. She has a custody hearing on Monday.

I contacted the Garden City Police Department to verify some of the details that have been reported online.

A spokesman confirmed that officers had searched Banda's home, though he denied it was a raid.

He also said the initial anti-drug program was put on entirely by the school — the police had no involvement.

**At that event Banda's son apparently contradicted some of the claims made about marijuana. The school then contacted the child protection agency, which then contacted the police.**

Officers from the department showed up at Banda's at home and asked her permission to conduct a search. She refused.

They then obtained a warrant and searched her home. The spokesman wouldn't comment on exactly what was found, except to say that there was "evidence" of drug activity.

Banda was then arrested and her son was seized from the home. Currently, there are no criminal charges against her. The spokesman wouldn't comment on whether charges may be forthcoming. He added that possession of marijuana is illegal in Kansas, without exception.

The absurdity here of course is that a woman could lose her custody of her child for therapeutically using a drug that's legal for recreational use an hour to the west. It seems safe to say that the amount of the drug she had in her home was an amount consistent with personal use. (If she had been distributing, she'd almost certainly have been charged by now.)

**This boy was defending his mother's use of a drug that helps her deal with an awful condition.**

**Because he stuck up for his mother, the state arrested her and ripped him away from her.**

**Even if he is eventually returned to his mother (as he ought to be), the school, the town, and the state of Kansas have already done a lot more damage to this kid than Banda's use of pot to treat her Crohn's disease ever could.**

### **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**

**There is no democracy without socialism and no socialism without democracy.  
-- Rosa Luxemburg**

## **Satanists Reject Comparison Of Cruz To Lucifer:**

# “Christians Can’t Just Push Cruz Off On Satanists”

5.1.16 by Ben Gittleson, ABC News

Prominent Satanists want to be clear: Ted Cruz need not apply.

After former House Speaker John Boehner on Wednesday called the current Republican presidential candidate “Lucifer in the flesh,” saying he found it difficult to work with him, staunch Satanists decried the comparison.

“Having a conservative Christian likened to Lucifer -- one who opposes equal rights for same sex couples and promotes the ability to deny services to any with different values - - we Satanists see as besmirching the positive, heroic aspects of that character as portrayed by Milton in his epic ‘Paradise Lost,’” Magus Peter Howard Gilmore, the high priest of The Church of Satan, said in a statement.

Lucien Greaves, a spokesman and co-founder for the Satanic Temple, told ABC News he thinks Cruz engages in “clearly deplorable behavior” and that Boehner’s comments were “thoughtless and ignorant.”

“Christians can’t just push Cruz off on Satanists,” Greaves said. “All he’s trying to say is that Ted Cruz is some type of embodiment of evil. I think that’s a rather destructive, backward mindset, because when you take clearly Christian individuals, clearly Christian activities, and things go sour, you pass them off as the influence of Satan.

“It really prevents you from thinking clearly,” he said.

Cruz had previously dismissed Boehner’s comparison, saying he had hardly interacted with the Ohio Republican over the years.

While Gilmore, the high priest, said that Satanists have not expressed any “collective support for any specific politicians,” Greaves said Satanists do not “want” Cruz and that he “is everything opposite of what we represent.”

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## **ANNIVERSARIES**

**May 4, 1970:  
Dishonorable Anniversary:  
Unarmed Students Murdered By Ohio  
National Guard**



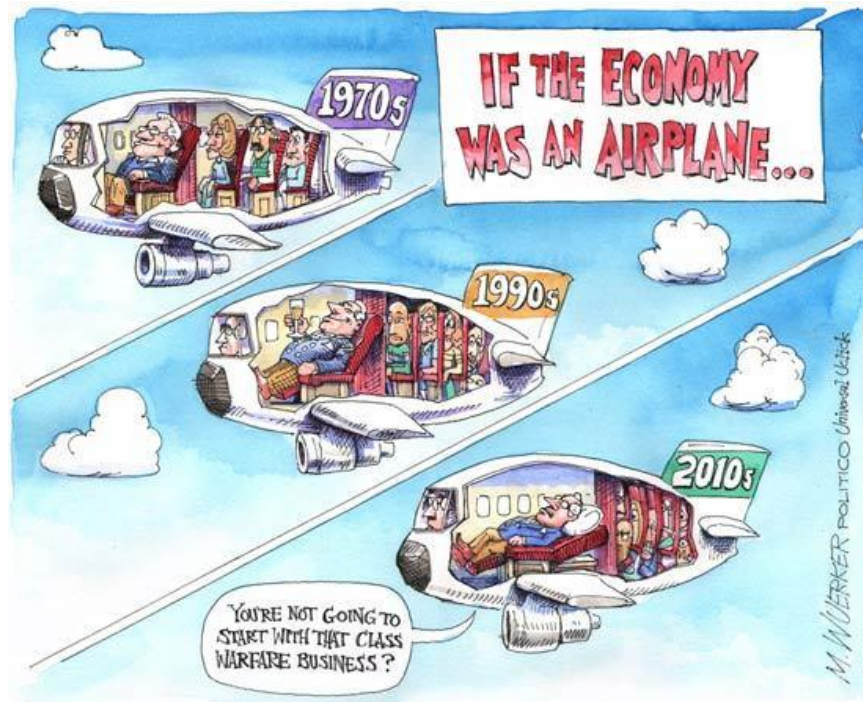
Carl Bunin Peace History April 30-May 6

**Ohio National Guard troops opened fire on anti-war protesters at Kent State University, killing four students and wounding nine others.**

The previous day, President Nixon had announced a widening of the Vietnam War with bombing in neighboring Cambodia. There were major campus protests around the country with students occupying university buildings to organize and discuss the war and other issues.

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## DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



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## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Zionist Scumbags Close Entrance  
Of Hebron Emergency Medical  
Center With Concrete Blocks,  
Completely Sealing It:  
“Soldiers Occupied The Center’s  
Rooftop, And Turned It Into A Military  
Base”**

## “The Center Receives Hundreds Of Patients On A Daily Basis”



April 25, 2016 IMEMC News

Israeli soldiers closed, on Monday morning, the main entrance of the Hebron Emergency Center, run by the Hebron Health Committees, by placing concrete blocks, completely sealing it, and deployed dozens of soldiers on its rooftop.

Dr. Ramzi Abu Yousef, director of the Health Work Committees (HWC) in Hebron, said many soldiers occupied the center's rooftop, and turned it into a military base.

Abu Yousef warned of the consequences of this violation, especially since the center receives hundreds of patients on a daily basis, and added that the center provides its medical services to more than 60.000 Palestinians.

**“For years now, the center has been subject to frequent Israeli military violations, including many invasions, and the soldiers even fired gas bombs at it,” Abu Yousef said,**

**“They also repeatedly sprayed it with waste-water mixed with chemicals, in addition to harassing the patients and their families, and the various measures restricting their freedom of movement.”**

The HWC voiced an urgent appeal to various human right groups to intervene, and provide the needed protection to Palestinian health centers, in addition to pressuring Israel into halting its serious violations.

“People who need medical care have the right to receive it, but Israel continues to violate it,” the HWC added, “International Humanitarian Law stresses on the importance of unrestricted access to medical facilities.”

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# **Pregnant Palestinian Woman Shot 15 Times By Israeli Forces: “Maram Abu Ismail And Her 16 Year-Old Brother Ibrahim Killed ‘Without Cause’ At West Bank Checkpoint, According To Family And Witnesses”**

**“The Two Were On Their Way To A Medical Appointment In Jerusalem”**

**“Israeli Officers Approached The Two After They Had Been Shot Before Opening Fire On Them Again ‘To Ensure That They Were Dead’”**

28 April 16 By teleSUR

The family of Maram Abu Ismail, a 25-year old Palestinian woman who was believed to be five-months pregnant, said Thursday that Israeli troops shot both her and her 16-year old brother Ibrahim Taha dead Wednesday.

Speaking to Palestinian media, the family said Maram was five months pregnant at the time of her death as Palestinian authorities confirmed the two were on their way to a medical appointment in Jerusalem after obtaining an Israeli permit to do so.

However, Israeli police claim the woman was holding a knife and was rapidly walking toward police and other Israeli security personnel in a vehicles-only lane at the Qalandia checkpoint outside Jerusalem.

In an official statement, the Palestinian Information Ministry said the siblings entered the vehicles-only lane by accident and their killing was a “brutal daylight crime” by Israeli forces.

**Witnesses also refute the Israeli sides claims, saying the two Palestinians began moving away from the lane when the troops asked them to.**



One witness told local media that Maram was shot 15 times by an Israeli soldier.

Alaa Soboh, a Palestinian bus driver who said he witnessed the incident, told Reuters the pair appeared to be unfamiliar with crossing procedures.

**“As soon as the two crossed, (Israeli forces) started screaming ‘Go back, go back,’ and then they began shooting. The first one they shot was the girl ... the boy tried to go backward when they fired seven bullets at him,” Soboh said.**

**A Palestinian local and witness to the incident, Ahmad Taha, told the Ma’an news agency that Israeli officers approached the two after they had been shot before opening fire on them again “to ensure that they were dead,” adding the officers “could have moved the two away without opening fire.” Taha also claimed the officers planted knives on the scene.**

More than 200 Palestinians have been killed since last October as part of renewed violence in the Palestinian occupied West Bank. Many of those killed did not pose a threat to Israeli troops and were mostly shot during clashes and protests.

Sarit Michaeli of the Israeli rights group B’Tselem said Thursday his group often finds the “degree of threat posed by the individual was much lower than was claimed by security forces.”

The latest round of unrest between Israel and Palestine was sparked by successive incursions by hard-line Israeli groups into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, the third-holiest site in Islam, as well as the struggling peace process and the continued illegal expansion of Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

Aid groups say Israeli troops are using excessive force against alleged Palestinian attackers, saying they could easily neutralize any threat without having to apply deadly force.

Even Israel’s biggest ally, the United States, has accused the Israeli army of “excessive use of force” in the Palestinian territories as well as “arbitrary arrest and associated torture and abuse, often with impunity,” in a U.S. State Department report released last week.

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## **Occupation Troops “Kidnapped, Late On Sunday At Night, Two Underage Siblings”**

# Steal Gold And Cash “From An Invaded Home In Beit Ummar Town, North Of Hebron”



Mo'taz Yousef Abu Diab, 15

Mohammad Yousef Abu Diab 17

Photo By Silwanic

April 25, 2016 IMEMC News

Israeli soldiers kidnapped, late on Sunday at night, two underage siblings, after invading and violently searching their home, in Silwan town, in occupied Jerusalem. The soldiers also invaded the Schools Street, in al-Khader town, south of Bethlehem.

The Wadi Hilweh Information Center in Silwan (Silwanic) said many soldiers stormed the home of Yousef Abu Diab, in Ein al-Louza neighborhood, and kidnapped his two children, identified as Mo'taz, 15, and Mohammad, 17.

Silwanic added that dozens of soldiers invaded the neighborhood, and clashed with local youngsters, who hurled stones and empty bottles on them, while the army fired many rubber-coated steel bullets, gas bombs and concussion grenades.

The youngsters also used fireworks against the invading Israeli army vehicles, Silwanic said, and added that the soldiers assaulted the two kidnapped siblings, causing various cuts and bruises.

**On Monday morning, the soldiers kidnapped one Palestinian in the southern West Bank city of Hebron, and confiscated gold and cash from an invaded home in Beit Ummar town, north of Hebron.**

**In the West Bank district of Bethlehem, the soldiers invaded the School Streets, in the al-Khader town, south of Bethlehem city, and tried to invade some schools. The teachers managed to accompany many students from the center of the town to their schools, with the help of volunteers from international churches.**

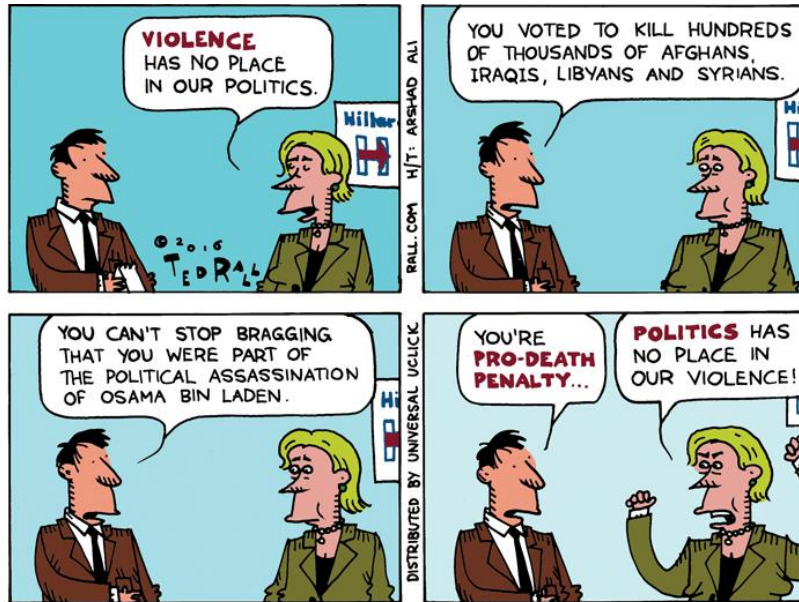
To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:

<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



## *Military Resistance* [www.militaryproject.org](http://www.militaryproject.org)

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