

Military Resistance 14E5

A Message From Greece:

[Greek Government Attacks The Soldier's Committee Of Conscript Solidarity]

**“We Are No Newcomers To This
‘Treatment’”**

**“We Know That The State Does Not
Acknowledge Rights To Its Citizens”**

**“Either We Will Live In The Society Of
Our Dreams Or We Will Star In Your
Worst Nightmares To Come”**

In that military, the conscript cannot be a civilian in uniform, with rights and a collective conduct to struggle and fight.

He or she must be a mere tool, with no judgment so ever, an obedient yes man, who does nothing if not ordered so.

He must be tortured to learn to torture others. He must accept the full power of his superiors on his life so he can appreciate his own power upon those he will be called to suppress.

From: Nick Prodromides [Greece]

To: Military Resistance Newsletter

Subject: In response to our recent court conviction of a 2 year penalty

Date: May 7, 2016

In Response To Our Recent Court Conviction With A 2 Year Sentence

These days, the so called “left” government ensures the sole support of the “independent” justice system to proceed to a promiscuous repression of every elemental civil right.

The decision of Civil Justice can also be seen as a death contract.

A death contract not only for the Committee of Conscript Solidarity (Epitropi Allilegiis Stratevmenon), the conscript movement or the perception of the conscript as a civilian with a uniform who has rights and must struggle for them in a collective manner.

This is a hit to the whole of people rights, to each and every one who fights, demands and challenges the barbaric nature of the government, the memorandum policies, EU, NATO and this capitalistic system.

Through the years of our political life, many have tried to harm us, stop us. But failed terribly.

The tried in many ways and through many agents.

Sometimes it would be the government terrorist acts booby-trapping one of our members car with a grenade when we revealed the significant problem of drugs in the troops, back in 1998.

They didn't stop then.

They persisted with threats, anonymous phone calls, “friendly” warnings from the higher ranks of authority.

But the government was not alone in this campaign against us.

They always had the full support of the military status quo and the Nazi far right.

Everyone from the elite had their shot to try to stop us. Now in the era of the Concentration camps for refugees, it was the turn of Justice system to try to stop us.

And they tried really hard.

Like that, without any hesitation the “Independent” Justice system, violating numerous judicial provisions of rights and fair trial, either for civilians or defendants, convicted our member.

This conviction of our member was on charges of criminal defamation for a conscript letter we published six years ago on our blogspot. The letter of the conscript revealed and denounced the conduct of code red practices (extrajudicial punishment) in his army camp.

For this conviction to take place the following where done:

- a) Without any legal conduct for removal of confidentiality in telecommunications, our member was announced as the blogspot administrator based on the plain fact that his name was registered for the help telephone number of the committee.
- b) It was shamelessly accepted that with illegal practices (due to the non-existent use of legal conduct to remove confidentiality of telecommunications) the phone calls of the committee were under surveillance in addition with the personal phone number of our member by the Cybercrime Department of Thessaloniki.
- c) It was considered as a valid fact from the court that because our member at some time a month after the letter was published, connected to the internet (not to our specific blogspot, nor to the specific post of the conscript letter), that he was the person who uploaded the post(!!!).

All this was conducted in a jury house with a strong feeling from the Greek civil war of the forties.

The President of the Court was shouting from the first five minutes that she needed no more than one witness, that she had done all the reading needed and knows exactly what this is all about.

She was also answering questions addressed to the accuser on behalf of him and even denying questions to be asked referring to the credibility of the former military camp Commander.

Another incident occurred while the defendants gave his speech.

When our member referred to the revelation and dismantling from the General Army Staff of a Nazi faction in the Evelpidon military school, the former commander shouted from the audience: "You will be sued again for that !!".

Obviously neither the four witnesses who were examined by the court nor the one hundred and four witnesses of the defendant would be enough to revoke a decision already made, even before the trial started.

The public prosecutor proposed a five month conviction, the jury decided two years!!

The old "left" pre WWII government of Berlin was "fishing" for Rosa Luxemburg's corpse in the Spree river so we can consider our conviction a kind of improvement in the history of European justice...

On the other hand if we consider the twenty plus years of the Committee of Conscript Solidarity actions, its hundreds of members, its enormous effort to publish conscript letters revealing and denouncing any violation of our constitutional rights, any red code harassments, and that all this time no government has tried to shut us up in such a profound order then we may be in front of new future, a dark and silent future.

Taking into account the rising numbers of conscripts committing suicide, the psychological problems developed and the increasing drug use, that makes our effort even more worthy and a future without the Committees action even more ill.

But we are no newcomers to this “treatment”.

We know that the state does not acknowledge rights to its citizens.

The social contract is in shambles and any alliance with the subclasses below is seen as a luxury. The social peace can only be retained by a management system which is strictly enforced, in this system the state grants gains only to those who participate in the suppression of their lower citizens in the social hierarchy.

It's been made clear that the merging of suppression forces and the use of military in days of “peace” is a key decision of the bourgeoisie and their state.

In that military, the conscript cannot be a civilian in uniform, with rights and a collective conduct to struggle and fight.

He or she must be a mere tool, with no judgment so ever, an obedient yes man, who does nothing if not ordered so.

He must be tortured to learn to torture others.

He must accept the full power of his superiors on his life so he can appreciate his own power upon those he will be called to suppress.

At first it will be the refugees, maybe the dissidents groups later, and surely the working and unemployed, the youth which live in this country.

The Greek Officials made a bold and clear statement with many recipients.

No critique nor denunciation of any “superior” will be tolerated.

Was it an employee against his employer? A local staff member against his manager? A civilian against a man of authority? For THEM it's the same, that is the essence of our conviction, that it's a conviction for everyone who will stand their ground.

But the collective forces of the workers movement, the youth movement have got the message also.

As we speak, every worker union, every student union, every neighbor collective, every human being who refuses to succumb to this dark and silent future of suppression and exploitation, is from now a member of the Committee of Conscript Solidarity.

And each and every one of us will become a channel of those that struggle and inform for the rights of the free conscripts, the workers, the unemployed, the youth, of natives and refugees, and immigrants.

There's no going back from here. To all you in power OUR message is crystal clear and it will be heard whether you like it or not.

Either we will live in the society of our dreams or we will star in your worst nightmares to come.

Committee of Conscript Solidarity (Epitropi Allilegiis Stratevmenon)

Network of Free Conscripts "Spartacus" (Diktio Elefteron Fantaron Spartakos)

Anti-War Internationalist Movement (Antipolemiki Diethnistiki Kinissi)

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Taliban Attacks In Afghan Province Of Helmand: "The Insurgents Now Control Much Of The Province"



Smoke billows from a building after a Taliban attack in Gereshk district of Helmand province, Afghanistan March 9, 2016. REUTERS/ABDUL MALIK

May 8, 2016 BY MOHAMMAD STANEKZAI, REUTERS [Excerpts]

Taliban insurgents attacked police checkpoints on the outskirts of Lashkar Gah, the main city of the southern Afghan province of Helmand early on Sunday, ending weeks of relative calm during the annual opium harvest.

Helmand has been one of the main targets of the Taliban, which has forced government security forces to pull back from several districts and concentrate around Lashkar Gah and the main highway that runs through the province.

The attack in the Babaji area of Lashkar Gah, during the early hours of the morning, set off a three-hour gunbattle during which the Taliban said they overran two checkpoints, destroyed an armored personnel carrier and captured a large amount of equipment.

Reports of casualties varied. Helmand police chief Abdul Rahman Sarjang said 14 Taliban fighters were killed and another 22 wounded before the insurgents were driven off, with four police killed and another seven wounded.

The Taliban said 15 police, including a police commander, were killed and several others wounded, while only one Taliban fighter was killed and another two wounded.

Brigadier General Charles Cleveland, the main spokesman for NATO's Resolute Support mission in Kabul, told reporters last week that many fighters had been working in the Helmand opium fields, which provide one of the Taliban's main sources of income.

However he said that the end of the annual spring harvest in Helmand, which accounts for the biggest share of Afghanistan's opium production, would probably lead to an increase in fighting, possibly as early as this week.

The insurgents, fighting to drive out the Western-backed government in Kabul, now control much of the province and have long operated in Babaji, just to the north of the center of Lashkar Gah.

The decision to pull security forces back from districts in the north and center of Helmand was announced in February as a tactical maneuver to concentrate strength before launching attacks on the Taliban.

However so far there has been little sign of the long-promised offensive.

"We are well equipped and well prepared but we are waiting for an order from the defense and interior ministries to attack the Taliban," Sarjang said.

Many Afghan Police Killed Close To Major Helmand City Of Lashkar Gah:

**“The Situation Is Very Critical”
“The Threat Is Becoming Bigger
Minute By Minute”
“If The Government Does Not Take
Action Soon, We Will Witness The
Collapse Of Lashkar Gah”**

May 11, 2016 ABNA24

Fifteen Afghan police were killed in an attack by the Taliban militants on two checkpoints close to Afghanistan’s southern city of Lashkar Gah in Helmand Province Tuesday.

A senior security official of Helmand released the number of fatalities, saying, “The situation is very critical near” the city.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the official also called on the Afghan government to act soon, warning that otherwise “there will be a disaster.”

The casualties came after Taliban militants overran two checkpoints in the town of Girishk and the district of Nad Ali.

Bashir Shaker, a member of the provincial council, said Taliban has recently stepped up its raids against “security belts near Lashkar Gah.”

“The threat is becoming bigger minute by minute. If the government does not take action soon, we will witness the collapse of Lashkar Gah,” Shaker stated.

Helmand, a Taliban heartland, has been the scene of fierce fighting for months as Taliban has stepped up its attacks there.

On April 12, Taliban announced the start of its annual spring offensive against Afghan security forces and US-led foreign forces across the conflict-ridden country.

The militants dubbed the offensive “Operation Omari” in honor of the Taliban founder and long-time leader, Mullah Mohammad Omar, who purportedly died at a hospital in Karachi, the main seaport and financial center of Pakistan, in April 2013.

Pentagon Report Reveals Confusion Among US Troops

Over Role In Afghanistan Mission:

**“‘It’s Not A Strategy And, In Fact,
It’s A Recipe For Disaster In That
Kind Of Kinetic Environment,’ Said
The Soldier”**

**“His Unit Asked Three Times For
Commanders To Clarify The Rules
Governing Their Mission”**

**“‘Sadly, The Only Sounds Audible Were
The Sounds Of Crickets ... Though Those
Were Hard To Hear Over The Gunfire,’
The Soldier Said”**

“Nobody in Western capitals seems willing to admit that Afghanistan is a worsening war zone and ... that their troops are still battling out a combat mission on a daily basis,” added the official, who declined to be named.

10 May 2016 Reuters

A Pentagon report has laid bare the confusion over rules of engagement governing the mission in Afghanistan.

The heavily redacted document has revealed that amid fierce fighting after the Taliban captured the northern city of Kunduz last year, US special forces advisers repeatedly asked their commanders how far they were allowed to go to help local troops retake the city.

They got no answer, according to witnesses interviewed for the review.

As the Taliban insurgency gathers strength, avoiding enemy fire has become increasingly difficult for US “advisers” who have been acting as consultants rather than combatants since NATO forces formally ceased fighting at the end of 2014.

“‘How far do you want to go?’ is not a proper response to ‘How far do you want us to go?’,” one special forces member told those investigating the US air strikes on a hospital in Kunduz that killed 42 medical staff, patients and caretakers.

But the 700-page report sheds light on how the rules are not fully understood, even by some troops on the ground, compromising the mission to stabilise the nation and defeat a worsening Islamist insurgency.

“It’s not a strategy and, in fact, it’s a recipe for disaster in that kind of kinetic environment,” said the soldier, who, like others in the report, was not identified.

He added that his unit, whose role was to advise and assist Afghan forces without engaging in combat, asked three times for commanders to clarify the rules governing their mission.

“Sadly, the only sounds audible were the sounds of crickets ... though those were hard to hear over the gunfire,” the soldier said.

Calling the authorities in Afghanistan “exceptionally complex”, previous training had failed to prevent confusion, the Kunduz report found.

Prior to deploying to Afghanistan, commanders made clear that “combat operations was mostly a thing of the past”, another special forces soldier said in the report.

On the ground, however, things were more complicated.

More than 9,000 US soldiers were “retrained” on the rules of engagement following missteps in Kunduz, in an effort to reduce future misunderstandings, he said.

Critics said the confusion comes from political expediency, because US leaders are keen to portray the Afghan operation as designed mainly to help local forces fight for themselves.

“The rules of engagement are trapped in the jaws of political confusion about the mission,” a senior Western official said.

“Nobody in Western capitals seems willing to admit that Afghanistan is a worsening war zone and ... that their troops are still battling out a combat mission on a daily basis,” added the official, who declined to be named.

Resistance Action

May 11, 2016 Reuters

At least 10 people were killed and 23 wounded on Tuesday when a bomber blew up his car near the house of a pro-government militia commander in the province of Nangarhar, a provincial official said.

The car drew up in front of the house of the commander in the Nazian district of Nangarhar, in eastern Afghanistan, according to Attaullah Khogyani, a spokesman for the provincial governor.

It was unclear whether the militia leader, whose name was given only as Dehqan, was injured in the attack.

“The commander was leading fighting against Taliban and Daeah insurgents in Nazian district,” Khogyani said. “The bomber was in front of his house and as soon as people from the village came together, he detonated himself.”

The commander belonged to a volunteer pro-government militia movement known as Public Uprising.

A statement from the governor’s office said 10 people had been killed, and another 23 wounded in the explosion.

SYRIA WAR REPORTS

Who Is The Biggest Customer For ISIS Oil And Natural Gas Production?

The Assad Regime!

**“Syria’s Power Plants Run On Fuel
Controlled Largely By Islamic State”**

**“Russian Engineers Take Orders
Largely From Islamic State Fighters’**

**“Syria Relies On Natural Gas, Much Of It
From Islamic State-Controlled Facilities,
To Produce About 90% Of Its Electricity”**

May 8, 2016 By JAY SOLOMON and BENOIT FAUCON, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

In Syria, George Haswani sees himself as a patriot. In the West, he is a wanted man.

Mr. Haswani acts as a middleman between Islamic State and the Syrian government, the terror group's largest customer, Western security officials allege. Islamic State controls much of Syria's energy infrastructure and sells stolen oil and natural gas at a discount—even to the regime it is ostensibly battling.

Emerging from the fog of Syria's multisided civil war, the businessman, 69 years old, says he is helping keep his country from plunging into the dark ages, given that Syria's power plants run on fuel controlled largely by Islamic State.

U.S. and European Union officials, meanwhile, have sanctioned Mr. Haswani, a dual-Russian-Syrian national, for his alleged role as a broker of crude-oil shipments from Islamic State to the government of President Bashar al-Assad. The sanctions freeze assets held by Mr. Haswani in the U.S. and EU.

"We've declared to the world...that we're going after him," said Amos Hochstein, a State Department special envoy who oversees U.S. efforts to cripple Islamic State's energy business.

The role played by men such as Mr. Haswani is one reason why Islamic State has been able to sustain itself financially despite U.S.-led military strikes and plunging oil prices.

The group's energy profits have fallen by as much as half over the past year, officials said, but sales continue to make up a sizable proportion of total revenues, estimated at \$1 billion to \$2 billion annually, including income from the Assad regime.

Buttressing Mr. Haswani are his strong ties to Russia. He teamed up years ago with one of President Vladimir Putin's closest associates to build the sprawling gas-production facility in Syria's Tuweinan region that caught the attention of the Obama administration.

Workers at the Tuweinan gas facility, which U.S. and EU officials say include Russian engineers, take orders largely from Islamic State fighters, Mr. Haswani said in a phone interview with The Wall Street Journal. "ISIS is telling them, 'You take this here, you take this there,' " he said.

Gas-plant workers must observe the militant group's fundamentalist brand of Sunni Islam, Mr. Haswani said. Some have been lashed for allegedly breaking religious edicts by smoking cigarettes, he said.

Business dealings between the Assad regime and Islamic State aren't limited to Mr. Haswani's operations, according to Syrian energy executives and Middle East analysts. The country's largest gas-production facility in eastern Deir Ezzour province, built by ConocoPhillips in the 1990s, operates under Islamic State control, as does the al Jbessa gas plant in the northeastern Hasakah province.

Syria relies on natural gas, much of it from Islamic State-controlled facilities, to produce about 90% of its electricity.

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

**He is whipped oftenest, who is whipped easiest.
-- Frederick Douglass; My Bondage And My Freedom**

Agent Orange Children Vietnam 2016



Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: May 12, 2016
Subject: Agent Orange Children Vietnam 2016

Full Disclosure

My father was a career Army officer, and World War II combat veteran. I spent my early youth on military bases in the United States, to include Japan and Germany. I absolutely loved my country, until I came back from Vietnam as an Army medic. The core belief system I was raised with came back in a body bag. These pictures represent part of my journey to unzip the truth I never knew. This photo essay is dedicated to my grandson, Shay Daniel Lydon, who was killed on a motorcycle at age 19 in 2012. As a result of many conversations I had with Shay, he was starting to understand the truth of the Vietnam War.

**Mike Hastie
Army Medic Vietnam
May 12, 2016**

**The further a society drifts from
the truth the more it will hate
those who speak it.
George Orwell
1984**

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

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

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

Eff 'Em, They're Not Our Sort Of People: "No Matter How Liberal On 'Social Causes' Democrats Are, The 'People's Party' In Its Top Echelons Has Contempt For Working Class People And Their Unions"



From: Clancy Sigal
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: EFF 'EM, THEY'RE NOT OUR SORT OF PEOPLE from Clancy
Date: May 11, 2016

We and our causes do make a life of hell for other people.

Take coal mining and logging and Canadian oil sands extraction close by the wildfire burned-out Fort McMurray. Since when do climatechangeologists, tree huggers, emission-free zealots and Albert Gore enthusiasts care a fig for how the rest of us live and try to make a living?

"We're going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business."

- Hillary Clinton, 13 March 16

By "we" she means when she becomes the Democratic Party president and puts into place her Clean Power Act to reduce our dependence on that nasty, dirty, fossil fuel which supplies 40 percent of the juice on our grid and creates 40 percent of our carbon emissions.

As usual when challenged, in this case by a West Virginia coal miner (see photo) raising his family on a miner's wage that like most miners is twice the impoverished state's average, she danced and prevaricated and (as always) claimed her quote was "taken out of context".

Back to the wall she conceded "I misspoke". No she didn't. Coal is on the way out, nuclear and solar are in, too bad for the 80,000 people who still make their living in Appalachia from digging the stuff, sorry fellas and ladies, don't let the door hit you on the way out.

Coal has been in decline for a century. That's the long historical view which the Washington elite likes to do while avoiding the human cost of hurrying along coal's suicide watch.

Coal's the villain. Look at how strip mining and mountain top removal rape the earth. Look at how coal mine operators and their political stooges in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky are "Lucifers in the flesh" when it comes to health and safety. Any miner past 40 who doesn't have black lung is a medical miracle.

The ugly fact is that coal mining in large parts of this country, including the far west, is "it" as far as having a living wage is concerned. No touting of Hillary's blue sky \$30 billion plan for job training, road and bridge building, broadband expansion and federal subsidies will make the slightest difference because we'll all be dead by that time including the miners and their families.

Putting it nicely: who cares?

Because no matter how liberal on "social causes" Democrats are, the evidence is that the "people's party" in its top echelons has contempt for working class people and their unions.

That's because policy makers – look at Obama's cabinet – come from an entirely different world of advanced university degrees where real human beings have no flesh and blood but are points on a Power Presentation.
(Always excepting the indomitable Elizabeth Warren.)

Look at logging. Felling trees also rapes the earth. “Any death of a tree is my death,” say the enviros who are usually city people a billion psychic miles from the callous-on-their-hands tree fellers.

Loggers – those selfish, beer-swilling animals – constantly fight the enviros for their jobs. Most environmentalists I’ve read couldn’t care less about loggers and their families.

Do any of us know that 20 people a year die cutting trees in Washington state alone? Do we understand the real difference between (bad) clear cutting which is safer for loggers and (good) select cutting on hillsides which is much more dangerous?

We don’t care. We want our environment saved and it’s just too bad about your kids, your mortgage and your life.

We take the long view.

The Canadian inferno that destroyed Fort McMurray (or “Fort Make Money” for second-chancers looking for jobs) shows Greenios at their worst. 90,000 residents fled for their lives. Many Canadians rushed to their support with food, tents, and money.

But “That’s what you get for living by oil sands,” the causers tweeted as forest flames consumed homes.

While the fire was still raging Canadian Green Party leader Elizabeth May helpfully explained it was “very related to the global climate crisis.” Alberta’s Green Party leader Janet Keeping also invoked climate change without expressing support for fire victims. That’s right, hit ‘em when they’re down.

Alberta, where Fort McMurray is sited, holds the third largest reserve of oil sands in the world. It’s awful stuff, sludgy, water wasteful and disgusting. You get paid well for extracting it and ruining our health. Obviously, you deserve what you get.

YOUR INVITATION:

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

ANNIVERSARIES

**May 13, 1968: Heroic Anniversary
The French General Strike Begins**



“We Are The Power”

Carl Bunin Peace History May 7-13

Workers joined Paris students' protest, launching a general strike calling for the fall of the government and protesting police brutality.

The protest by French students included occupation of The Sorbonne; by the end of the month over 10,000,000 had been involved in school and workplace occupations.

May 14, 1970 -- Hideous Anniversary: Slaughtered By Mississippi Police



Phillip Lafayette Gibbs



James Earl Green

Carl Bunin Peace & Justice History May 9-15

Two African-American students were shot to death and 30 others wounded by local police and state troopers and national guardsmen at primarily black Jackson State University in Mississippi.

The two were watching demonstrators protesting the invasion of Cambodia and racial discrimination from a nearby dormitory tower.

This happened shortly after the shooting of students at Kent State University in Ohio.

Two days of riots ensued in Jackson resulting in curfews and sealing off of the city.

Mother's Day Proposed: May 15, 1870

“We, The Women Of One Country, Will Be Too Tender Of Those Of Another Country To Allow Our Sons To Be Trained To Injure Theirs”

Carl Bunin Peace History May 11-17, 2009

May 15, 1870: Julia Ward Howe, suffragist, abolitionist and author of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” proposed Mother's Day as a peace holiday.

Julia Ward Howe, 1870

Arise, then, women of this day!
Arise, all women who have hearts,
Whether our baptism be of water or of tears!

Say firmly: “We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies,
Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause.
Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn
All that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience.
We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country
To allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.”

From the bosom of the devastated Earth a voice goes up with our own.
It says: “Disarm! Disarm! The sword of murder is not the balance of justice.”
Blood does not wipe out dishonor, nor violence indicate possession.
As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil at the summons of war,
Let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of
counsel.

Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead.

Let them solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means
Whereby the great human family can live in peace,
Each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar,
But of God.

In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask
That a general congress of women without limit of nationality
May be appointed and held at someplace deemed most convenient
And at the earliest period consistent with its objects,
To promote the alliance of the different nationalities,
The amicable settlement of international questions,
The great and general interests of peace.

RECEIVED FROM READERS

**“On ISIS, It’s A Phony War With
The Troops Playing Their Part”**

**“See? We’re Serious. Troops Are
Dying....The Sacred Blood Of The
Lamb”**

**“They Kept Sending America’s Finest To
Die For Political Reasons”**

From: Don Bacon
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: May 08, 2016 & May 10, 2016
Subject: Re: Military Resistance 14E4: “Distrust In The Ranks”

You hold the record for persistence!

I expected that thirteen years ago we could stop this foolishness, and sort of gave up,
but you never did.

Kudos!

**On ISIS, it’s a phony war with the troops playing their part, sacrificing their lives
as a part of the government facade that this is not a phony war, that they are
serious about it.**

See? We're serious. Troops are dying....The sacred blood of the lamb.

But ISIS serves US strategy, which with Saudi Arabia and Turkey as allies is primarily anti-Iran. . . .Split the Middle East, to break the Iran-Iraq--Syria enemy alliance. <http://warisaracket.org/caliphate.html>

This (ISIS) reminds me of Afghanistan, about which they have known for years that Pakistan was supporting the Taliban which the US thought they dispossessed, but they kept sending America's finest to die for political reasons.

It was the good war, as if Afghanistan was a genuine threat to the US.

And they kept sending money to Pakistan! But Obama (like any president) couldn't pull out and look like a coward. McCain would be on him.

What isn't widely known is that India, much larger and richer than Pakistan, has a large presence in Afghanistan (thanks to the US) and Pakistan doesn't want to become an Indian sandwich, surrounded. General McChrystal included that in his Sep 2009 assessment to Obama, who then (Dec 2009) at West Point announced the big troop increase, taking it from 30K to over 100K.

Solely for political reasons, knowing that America's best were going to hopeless slaughter-house, the historical graveyard of invading armies. A place where the enemy was supported by the neighboring country, a US ally, and Washington knew it. And they still know it, but yet they are continuing to send troops in a hopeless cause solely for political reasons. The deaths of others makes them look good.

The blood of the lamb.

quote:

"Every influence, every motive, that provokes the spirit of murder among men, impels these mountaineers to deeds of treachery and violence. The strong aboriginal propensity to kill, inherent in all human beings, has in these valleys been preserved in unexampled strength and vigour.

"That religion, which above all others was founded and propagated by the sword -- the tenets and principles of which are instinct with incentives to slaughter and which in three continents has produced fighting breeds of men -- stimulates a wild and merciless fanaticism. The love of plunder, always a characteristic of hill tribes, is fostered by the spectacle of opulence and luxury which, to their eyes, the cities and plains of the south display.

"A code of honour not less punctilious than that of old Spain, is supported by vendettas as implacable as those of Corsica. . . . Then the Mullah will raise his voice and remind them of other days when the sons of the prophet drove the infidel from the plains of India, and ruled at Delhi, as wide an Empire as the Kafir holds to-day: when the true religion strode proudly through the earth and scorned to lie hidden and neglected among the hills: when mighty princes ruled in Baghdad, and all men knew that there was one God, and Mahomet was His prophet.

“And the young men hearing these things will grip their Martinis [British rifle], and pray to Allah, that one day He will bring some Sahib[Brit] -- best prize of all -- across their line of sight at seven hundred yards so that, at least, they may strike a blow for insulted and threatened Islam.”

-- Winston Churchill, journalist, 1897, aged 23

And so it is with ISIS, a phony war. But sacrifices must be made to sanctify the actions of the corrupt politicians.

Best regards,
Don

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK

Poor Wages Send A Third Of US Manufacturing Workers To Welfare Lines In Order To Pay For Food, Healthcare: “For Hundreds Of Thousands Of America’s Factory Workers, Even Working At Near Full Time Isn’t Enough”

12 May 16 By Angelo Young, International Business Times

U.S. manufacturing jobs used to be a path to the middle class for Americans who couldn’t or didn’t dive into the comfort provided by higher education degrees.

But now many skilled, working Americans need some form of public assistance because their wages don’t pay for basic living expenses.

Just over 2 million supervised manufacturing workers, or about a third of the total, need food stamps, Medicaid, tax credits for the poor or other forms of publicly subsidized assistance while they work on goods that can carry the tag “Made in the U.S.A.,” according to research of official government wage and welfare data released Tuesday by the University of California, Berkeley.

The cost of these benefits to the U.S. taxpayer? From 2009 to 2013, federal and state governments subsidized the low manufacturing wages paid by the private sector to the tune of \$10.2 million per year.

Oregon led the nation on the number of manufacturing workers – 1 in 4 – that needed food stamps during that period of time, while 1 in 5 factory workers in Mississippi and Illinois needed healthcare assistance for both adults (Medicaid) and children (CHIP). Taking into account all major social welfare, including the earned income tax credit and temporary assistance to needy families (TANF), Mississippi topped the list, followed by Georgia, California and Texas.

“In decades past, production workers employed in manufacturing earned wages significantly higher than the U.S. average, but by 2013 the typical manufacturing production worker made 7.7 percent below the median wage for all occupations,” said the paper by a team headed by Ken Jacobs, chair of the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education.

The research aimed to extend an already well-established national debate on wages paid in the service industry, which are often juxtaposed to the factory work that lifted millions of Americans out of poverty for much of the 20th century.

The research comes as U.S. workers overall are experiencing one of the lowest paces of wage growth on record. Seven years after the U.S. government declared an end to the longest period of economic contraction since the Great Depression, workers have yet to experience the kind of wage-growth recovery that would be considered normal for the country.

The research, conducted by the National Employment Law Project, a non-profit labor-advocacy group that regularly monitors official government data for trends, found that the median wage for non-supervisory manufacturing jobs was \$15.66 an hour in 2013, with a fourth of them making \$11.91 an hour thanks to the massive rise of dependence on temporary workers, who cost less because they tend to not to receive the same benefits as their full-time, directly employed co-workers.

These jobs including cabinetmaking, drilling, metalworking and dozens of other non-supervisory manufacturing jobs that once played a role in growing the number of middle class consumers who earned enough to buy the goods they were making, leading to a virtuous cycle of supply and demand for nationally produced goods.

The research has a fairly low bar for counting a manufacturing worker, largely because the U.S. manufacturing industry has incorporated so many temporary non-full-time workers that in order to count all manufacturing workers the research had to include those working at least 10 hours a week because of lack of demand for their labor.

However, nearly a third of permanent factory workers and almost half of temp factory workers in the study worked at least 35 hours a week and 45 weeks out of the year also needed one or more of the public safety net programs. So for hundreds of thousands of America’s factory workers, even working at near full time isn’t enough.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Israeli General Compares Zionist State To Nazi-Era Germany: “He Saw ‘Revolting Trends’ In Today’s Israel That He Compared To Nazi-Era Germany And Europe In The 1930s”



Deputy chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Yair Golan. Credit: Rami Shlush

May 8 By William Booth, The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — On the eve of Holocaust Remembrance Day last week, a top Israeli general gave a speech saying he saw “revolting trends” in today’s Israel that he compared to Nazi-era Germany and Europe in the 1930s.

No surprise — this has created a big stir in Israel, flaring again Sunday.

In his address, Maj. Gen. Yair Golan, deputy chief of staff of the Israel Defense Forces, essentially the No. 2 man in the army, warned his fellow citizens, “There is nothing easier than to hate those who are different; there is nothing easier than to sow fear and terror; there is nothing easier than to behave like animals.”

His speech comes amid revelations that an Israeli soldier shot and killed a wounded Palestinian attacker in the head, an act that human rights activists called a street execution and that Israeli military prosecutors called manslaughter.

Many Israelis, however, called the soldier a hero. After Sgt. Elor Azaria was charged, thousands of Israelis rallied at Rabin Square in Tel Aviv to praise his actions and demand he be released. Some of the crowd shouted, “Death to Arabs!” and harassed journalists.

The general's speech may have sparked reflection in some sectors, but mostly it inspired criticism — and calls for his head.

On Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu weighed in, denouncing the speech as “outrageous” and “unfounded.” Netanyahu said the general “cheapened” the Holocaust, during which 6 million European Jews were slaughtered by the Germans and their abettors.

Israel's culture and sports minister, Miri Regev, said Golan should resign. “It cannot be that the deputy chief of staff, a uniform-wearing officer, be a part of the delegitimization against Israel,” Regev said, according to Israeli media accounts.

What did the general actually say? Speaking at a ceremony at the Massuah Institute for Holocaust Studies, Golan said:

“(The Holocaust) must make us think deeply about the responsibility of leadership, the quality of society, and it must lead us to fundamental thinking about how we, here and now, treat the stranger, the orphan and the widow, and all who are like them.

“If there is one thing that frightens me about the memory of the Holocaust, it is identifying the revolting trends that occurred in Europe as a whole, and in Germany in particular, some 70, 80 and 90 years ago, and finding evidence of those trends here, among us, in 2016.

“There is nothing easier than to hate those who are different; there is nothing easier than to sow fear and terror; there is nothing easier than to behave like animals, conform and be self righteous. It is worthwhile, and even necessary, for Holocaust Remembrance Day to be a day of national soul searching. And in our national soul searching we must include phenomena that are very disturbing.”

The Haaretz columnist Chemi Shalev wrote of the general, “It's hard for me to tell whether he's brave or stupid or possibly both.” Shalev wrote:

“Golan's foolhardiness has become obvious since his bracing Holocaust Day speech on Wednesday at Kibbutz Tel Yitzhak, in which he refrained from casting Israeli society as an eternal victim but warned against the increasing intolerance that could turn it into a potential perpetrator as well.

“I am assuming that Golan knew that his words would be made public, that he was cognizant of the tremors of shock they would send throughout Israel and parts of the Jewish world, especially on such a sensitive day, and that he was fully aware that within the space of a few hours he would become public enemy no. 1 for Israeli right wingers and self-styled Jewish patriots abroad.

“If he didn't know, he's an idiot, if he did and went ahead nonetheless then he's a fool, career-wise at least, but more of a hero as well.”

This is not the first time in recent months that Israeli military brass have found themselves criticized by Israel's hard right.

The military's chief of staff, Gadi Eisenkot, was castigated after he said, during a meeting with high school students, that he does not "want a soldier to empty a magazine on a girl with scissors," referring to soldiers who fire several bullets into Palestinian attackers, including teenagers.

Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon similarly was criticized by his right flank after he said those who back the soldier who shot the Palestinian in the head "don't back our laws and values."

The leader of Israel's opposition, Yitzhak Herzog, called Golan courageous. Herzog wrote:

"The lunatics who will now start to scream against him need to know: This is what morality and responsibility sound like. We won't be fazed by the cries and the insults, and we will continue to support the IDF and its commanders. Always."

It is probably worth noting that the day after Golan gave his speech, he issued a statement in which he walked back his remarks, saying he had not meant to compare Israel to Nazi Germany, nor to criticize the current leadership, nor the Israel Defense Forces, "a moral army that respects the rules of engagement and protects human dignity."

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?



U.S. soldier in Beijia village Iraq, Feb. 4, 2008. (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

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LIFT THE BLOCKAGE OF GAZA
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RALLY MAY 15TH 1:30PM AT
CITY HALL PARK, NY
FOLLOWED BY MARCH ON
BROOKLYN BRIDGE

ALL WELCOME TO
FAMILY ACTIVITIES
AT CADMAN PLAZA PARK
AFTER THE MARCH!

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NAKBA DAY MARCH FOR RESISTANCE AND RETURN

Sunday, May 15

1:30 pm

New York City

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On the 68th anniversary of the occupation of Palestine, and as the Palestinian people enter the 68th year of dispossession and exile, we call on all Palestinians, friends of Palestine and supporters of justice and liberation to come together to march and rally, commemorate the Nakba, stand against the continuing Nakba, and call for the right of return for Palestinian refugees and freedom for Palestine.

68 years after the Nakba - the war of 1948 in which over 800,000 Palestinians were driven from their homes and land and the state of Israel created on that land - Palestinians continue to struggle for their right to return, for freedom from occupation, for justice, and against the Nakba that continues today.

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