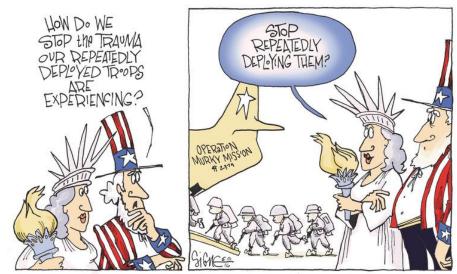
Military Resistance 14F3



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: "What a Concept."]

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Taliban Kill Senior Prosecutor And Six More As Militants Storm **Courthouse:**

"They Have Escalated Attacks Against **Court Workers To Avenge The Hanging** Of The Taliban Prisoners"

June 5, 2016 By EHSANULLAH AMIRI and JESSICA DONATI, Wall Street Journal

KABUL—Taliban militants stormed a court in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday, killing seven people, including the top provincial prosecutor, officials said—the latest in a series of attacks targeting the judiciary.

In a separate incident, an Afghan lawmaker was killed by a bomb placed outside his home in Kabul later on Sunday, the interior ministry said.

The Taliban also claimed responsibility for the attack, which wounded another 11 people in the vicinity.

Also on Sunday, David Gilkey, a photojournalist with National Public Radio, and his Afghan translator were killed when their vehicle was struck by shellfire while traveling in an army convoy in southern Afghanistan, the news organization said. Mr. Gilkey and two colleagues were on a monthlong assignment traveling around the country with local security forces.

Three assailants entered the appeals court building in Logar province during a ceremony to introduce the newly appointed chief prosecutor and shot at people in the hall, said Saleem Saleh, the governor's spokesman. Ten people, including the three attackers, were killed and 23 were wounded in the hourlong siege that followed, he said.

Afghan security forces who were deployed to rescue trapped workers and flush out the attackers eventually gunned down the militants before they could detonate explosive vests, local officials said.

The Taliban claimed responsibility and said the attack was launched to avenge the deaths of six Taliban prisoners in May.

The Taliban have long targeted lawyers and judges who are seen to be responsible for imprisoning their fighters.

But in recent weeks, they have escalated attacks against court workers to avenge the hanging of the Taliban prisoners.

The six prisoners, who had been on death row for years, were executed after a truckbomb attack in Kabul killed more than 60 people and wounded hundreds in April. The prisoners themselves hadn't been involved in the incident, and human-rights groups criticized the hangings.

Since then, the Taliban have made the Afghan judiciary offices one of their main targets. In late May, a bomber killed 10 people in an attack on a minibus carrying workers to a court in Wardak province, west of Kabul. A week later, Taliban insurgents attacked a provincial court in Ghazni province, killing six people and wounding more than a dozen.

Fears of an escalation in Taliban attacks on government targets have risen since the insurgent group's leader, Mullah Akhtar Mansour, was killed by a U.S. drone strike in southwest Pakistan in May. Maulavi Haibatullah, a religious leader, was named to succeed him.

POLICE WAR REPORTS

Five New York City Jail Guards Convicted In Beating Of Inmate: "This Guy Thinks He's Tough; When You Get Him To The Intake Area, Take Him To A Separate Pen And Knock His Fucking Teeth Out" "Mr. Lightfoot, 31 Years Old, Suffered Fractures To Both Eye Sockets, A Broken Nose And Other Facial Injuries"

June 7, 2016 By CORINNE RAMEY, Wall Street Journal

A Bronx jury convicted five Rikers Island correction officers of assaulting an inmate and trying to cover it up in a case that has fueled debate about the use of force against prisoners at the New York City jail complex.

The five convicted Tuesday—former Assistant Chief of Security Eliseo Perez Jr. and officers Alfred Rivera, Tobias Parker, Jose Parra and David Rodriguez—were part of a group of 10 city Department of Correction officers charged with the gang assault of inmate Jahmal Lightfoot.

They are scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 6 in state Supreme Court in the Bronx, Justice Steven Barrett said Tuesday. They face up to 15 years in prison.

Of the remaining five officers, three are receiving bench trials and the judge is expected to deliver verdicts on Friday. One is being tried separately and another, Jeffrey Richard, was found not guilty on Tuesday.

Renee Hill, an attorney for Mr. Parra, said her client maintained his innocence. Lawyers for the other convicted officers couldn't be reached, didn't return calls or declined to comment.

Norman Seabrook, president of the union that represents correction officers, said the verdict is an "absolute travesty." "We wonder if it is even possible for these officers to receive a fair trial given that the powers that be regularly use correction officers as a scapegoat for decades of mismanagement at Rikers," he said. [This worthless piece of shit was arrested today for stealing from the union pension fund. T]

Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark, who has pledged to prosecute crimes at Rikers, said that having a "uniform and a badge" doesn't absolve one from committing a crime.

Prosecutors said that on July 11, 2012, Mr. Perez and former Capt. Gerald Vaughn ordered members of a division called the Emergency Services Unit to beat Mr. Lightfoot in a small intake cell, which had no video surveillance and was covered by a sheet, at the George R. Vierno Center, a jail at Rikers. Mr. Vaughn is one of those receiving bench trials.

According to prosecutors, Mr. Perez said: "This guy thinks he's tough; when you get him to the intake area, take him to a separate pen and knock his fucking teeth out."

Mr. Lightfoot, 31 years old, suffered fractures to both eye sockets, a broken nose and other facial injuries, prosecutors said. The officers subsequently falsified reports and claimed Mr. Lightfoot slashed one of them with a piece of metal, which they later produced, prosecutors said.

Mr. Lightfoot was convicted of second-degree robbery and released from state prison in 2014, records show.

Sanford Rubenstein, an attorney for Mr. Lightfoot, said his client hoped the verdict would prevent other inmates from being assaulted.

"Let this verdict stand as a message to correction officers all over the country that if you viciously beat an inmate you can end up a convicted felon yourself," Mr. Rubenstein said.

Messrs. Perez and Vaughn have retired. Eight officers have been on modified desk duty and have no contact with inmates, officials said.

All staff convicted of felonies will be fired, according to correction department officials.

The case has brought renewed attention to use of force by correction officers at Rikers. Last June, city and federal officials reached a settlement over alleged abuses at the complex. The agreement required new use-of-force policies and the appointment of an independent monitor, among other changes.

The monitor's first report, released late last month, found that use of force has declined slightly overall.

Current and former correction officers filled the courtroom for the verdict on Tuesday. Those convicted had spent years with the department, with the most recent hired in 2008. Mr. Perez, 49 years old, began working for the department in 1987. When he retired in June 2013 he was earning a salary of \$178,907.

"Corrections is not getting a fair shot in the Bronx," said Clay Jemmott, a retired correction captain, after the verdict. He said an episode of "Law & Order: SVU" that aired recently included inmates testifying against a correction officer accused of rape. "You're telling me that doesn't influence the jury?" Mr. Jemmott said.

Officials at the correction department noted changes made since the 2012 incident, including increasing the number of staff in the investigations division

from 58 to 128. The number of cases that led to disciplinary charges also increased, from 93 in 2013 to 200 in 2015, officials said.

"We have zero tolerance for any illegal behavior on the part of staff, and the officers found guilty of felonies will be terminated," Commissioner Joseph Ponte said in a statement.

Katie Darovitz Has Severe Epilepsy:

"Doctors Told Her That The Medications She Was Using Carry A Risk Of Miscarriage And Birth Defects"

"When She Got Pregnant In 2014, She Discovered Marijuana Could Control Her Seizures" "Two Police Officers Showed Up Handcuffed Her, And Hauled Her Off To Jail"

05 June 2016 By Nina Martin, ProPublica

Nina Martin is ProPublica's first reporter covering gender and sexuality. She joined the staff in September 2013 after spending much of the last decade at San Francisco magazine as articles editor (since 2007) and executive editor (2003-2005).

Martin has been a reporter and editor specializing in women's, legal and health issues for more than 30 years. Her early career included stints at The Baltimore Sun, The Washington Post, and the International Herald Tribune. Her work has appeared in many magazines, including Health, Mother Jones, Elle, and The Nation. Martin is based in Berkeley, California.

Sixteen months after her arrest, Katie Darovitz -- one of at least 500 women prosecuted under Alabama's toughest-in-the-nation chemical endangerment law -- has had her case dismissed.

Darovitz's story, first chronicled by ProPublica last year, was especially wrenching: She has severe epilepsy, and doctors told her that the medications she was using to treat her condition carry a risk of miscarriage and birth defects.

When she got pregnant in 2014, she discovered marijuana could control her seizures and had not been associated with birth defects.

But when she gave birth, hospital staffers turned over her positive marijuana screen to a social worker who turned it over to law enforcement officials.

Two police officers showed up at the house Darovitz shared with her common-law husband and their two-week-old son, handcuffed her, and hauled her off to jail.

Though her son, Will, was in good health, Darovitz was charged with a Class C felony -- punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Darovitz's mother-in-law, Debi Word, said the dismissal came as a relief.

But it was a long, grueling process that required a battery of national advocacy groups, pro-bono lawyers, a GoFundMe campaign, and every penny and moment that Darovitz's family could spare.

Among the casualties: Word's marriage and Darovitz's Social Security disability payments -- her only source of income.

"What we have gone through has been just horrible," Word said.

As ProPublica and AL.com reported last year, Alabama's chemical endangerment law makes it a felony to "knowingly, recklessly, or intentionally" cause a child to be exposed to controlled substances and drug-making chemicals.

The statute carries sentences up to 10 years in prison if a child is unharmed and up to 99 years if a child dies.

The 2006 statute was initially aimed at parents who exposed children to dangerous methamphetamine labs, then was reinterpreted by prosecutors and courts to target women who used drugs during pregnancy.

That tangled history, combined with a lack of law-enforcement guidelines, have led to wide disparities in how the law is used and troubling instances of overreach and abuse.

The Alabama legislature amended the law this spring to address one of its biggest problems: vague language that allowed women to be prosecuted even when they used controlled substances, such as opiate painkillers or methadone, that were legally prescribed by their doctors. Under the amendment signed by Gov. Robert Bentley last month, such women are now exempt from punishment.

Prosecutors have defended other aspects of the law, saying it's an important tool in dealing with rampant addiction -- and sometimes the only way to force women into treatment. According to the ProPublica/AL.com investigation, the vast majority of chemical endangerment cases are resolved by women agreeing to go into diversion programs or to drug court, although women who fail those programs often go to jail.

Darovitz's case shows the toll such cases can take on families, even if women manage to avoid incarceration.

"The power of the state is amazing to see," said Jose Guzman, a lawyer in Columbus, Georgia, who negotiated the dismissal. "The state can really wreck your life."

Though Darovitz's case is unusual in some of its details, in other ways it is typical of the cases ProPublica and AL.com examined.

Like Darovitz, 20 percent of mothers charged with chemical endangerment used marijuana only; like Darovitz, about a quarter had no prior criminal record.

And like Darovitz, many of the mothers were turned over by hospitals, which sometimes conducted drug tests without mothers' knowledge or consent.

In Russell County in eastern Alabama, where Darovitz and her family live a few miles from the Georgia border, at least 19 mothers have been charged with chemical endangerment of an unborn child since 2006. It's not unusual for a chemical endangerment defendant in the county to face a \$2,500 fine on top of all the other fees.

That's what Word's family was hoping to avoid when Darovitz was arrested.

Leery of public defenders who they feared might not put much effort into the case, they originally hired a Birmingham lawyer who charged them a \$2,000 retainer. But the case stalled; eventually Word and her family found Guzman through the medical marijuana advocacy group Patients Out of Time.

By then Darovitz, who cannot work, had lost her Medicare and Social Security disability payments for unrelated reasons, Word said. With no health insurance or income, she couldn't afford the \$300 monthly bill for her epilepsy medication, so she again controlled her seizures with medical marijuana -- which has complicated the process of getting her benefits reinstated. "Because she used marijuana, they say she was just a drug user," Word said. "To them, it looks like she's being noncompliant."

The costs piled up, eventually exceeding \$6,000, Word said. Just getting Darovitz's medical records from the hospital cost \$150 -- and it wasn't until this past spring, after Guzman was hired, that they found a toxicology report stating that the drug tests were unconfirmed and could not be used in court.

According to Guzman, there is no record that officials at East Alabama Medical Center, where Darovitz gave birth, or prosecutors ever conducted a second test to confirm the results. A spokesman for the hospital did not return a phone call or email.

Ultimately, Guzman was able to negotiate a deal with the Russell County District Attorney's office, which agreed to drop the charges if Darovitz signed a letter saying she intended to move to a state, such as Georgia, where medical marijuana is legal and if she agreed not to sue the county. (There is no deadline by which Darovitz would have to move, and Alabama's governor recently signed a bill decriminalizing medical marijuana oil.)

"Negotiating a non-suit agreement is common practice," Russell County District Attorney Ken Davis said in an email. "We didn't require the defendant to move anywhere," he added, but he acknowledged, '(T) he fact that she was moving to a state where (she) might get a prescription not available in Alabama was a factor in the decision to dismiss the pending charge."

The dismissal order was filed in April.

"We've been living in peace," Word said.

Family Blames Police Brutality For Man's Death:

"More Officers Arrive. They Hold Him Down, And One Of Them Steps On Godinez's Neck And Appears To Stand On Him" "Godinez Died At The Scene"

APRIL 15, 2016, BY MIKE LOWE, WGN-TV

CHICAGO -- City Hall has released police dashcam video of a man being arrested last July on the southwest side, who died while in custody.

Police were called to the 300 block of West 39th Street after reports of disturbances around a garage where they found 24-year-old Heriberto Godinez.

Police placed him in restraints.

He is seen on the video resisting and kicking his legs and struggling with officers. As the video continues more officers arrive. They hold him down, and one of them steps on Godinez's neck and appears to stand on him. Godinez died at the scene.

The Cook County medical examiner's office determined that Godinez had cocaine and alcohol in his system, but ruled the manner of death undetermined.

Godinez's sisters sued to have the dashcam video released.

However, their attorney says the family is upset the video was released to the media before they could see it first.

Godinez sister Janet says after seeing it, she's angry and frustrated with the city and it's police department.

"The police should be ashamed of themselves," she said. "They treated my brother worse than animal. My brother was hiding, my brother was scared."

New Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson has been promising more accountability and today, he placed the two officers involved on administrative duty pending the outcome of an investigation by the Independent Police Review Authority.

In a statement he said: "The actions by two officers in the video are concerning, and as a result, I have removed them from operational duties pending the outcome of IPRA's thorough investigation."

The city's Dept of Law said in a statement, "Now that IPRA has advanced its investigation to the point it no longer objects to the release of these records, the city is producing them as part of its new policy that increases transparency while also protecting the integrity of ongoing investigations."

The Godinez family attorney Jeff Granich says the family is outraged by the city's handling of the video.

"Today's decision to release the video to the media before the family gets to look at this video and deal with it and process it is despicable," he said.

Granich says it plans to file a federal civil rights/wrongful death lawsuit in court next week. The IPRA is still investigating this case and does not comment on on-going investigations.

Autistic 6th Grade Boy Charged With Disorderly Conduct For Kicking A Trash Can: "School Cop Handcuffed 4-Year-Old Throwing Blocks And Kicking

At Teachers And Drove Him To A Sheriff's Department" "When A School Cop Grabbed Her She Swore. The Cop Charged Her With Obstruction Of Justice" "12-Year-Old Girl Charged With Four Misdemeanors For 'Clenching Her Fist' At School Cop"

Kayleb Moon-Robinson — who is diagnosed as autistic — had barely started sixth grade last fall in Lynchburg, Virginia, when a school resource officer filed charges against him. Kayleb was charged with disorderly conduct for kicking over a trash can and then with felony assault on a police officer because he struggled to break free when the cop grabbed him. Credit: Charlie Archambault/Center for Public Integrity

April 10, 2015 By Susan Ferriss, The Center for Public Integrity

Kayleb Moon-Robinson was 11 years old last fall when charges — criminal charges — began piling up at school.

Diagnosed as autistic, the sixth-grader was being scolded for misbehavior one day and kicked a trash can at Linkhorne Middle School in Lynchburg, Virginia, in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

A police officer assigned to the school witnessed the tantrum, and filed a disorderly conduct charge against the sixth grader in juvenile court.

Just weeks later, in November, Kayleb, who is African-American, disobeyed a new rule — this one just for him — that he wait while other kids left class. The principal sent the same school officer to get him.

"He grabbed me and tried to take me to the office," said Kayleb, a small, bespectacled boy who enjoys science. "I started pushing him away. He slammed me down, and then he handcuffed me."

In an incident report, a teacher confirmed that the officer spoke to Kayleb, then grabbed him around the chest, and that Kayleb cursed and struggled. School officials won't comment on this case, but say that police in schools are crucial to providing a safe atmosphere and protecting against outside threats.

Stacey Doss, Kayleb's mother and the daughter of a police officer herself, was outraged.

Educators stood by, she said, while the cop took her son in handcuffs to juvenile court. The officer filed a second misdemeanor disorderly conduct complaint. And he also submitted another charge, a very grown-up charge for a very small boy: felony assault on a police officer. That charge was filed, Doss said the officer told her, because Kayleb "fought back."

"I thought in my mind — Kayleb is 11," Doss said. "He is autistic. He doesn't fully understand how to differentiate the roles of certain people."

To Doss' shock, a Lynchburg juvenile court judge found Kayleb guilty of all those charges in early April, which could prove life-altering.

The young student's swift trip into the criminal justice system, which sparked nationwide concern and reform efforts, might seem like a singular case of tough discipline. But he's not alone.

In fact, US Department of Education data analyzed by the Center for Public Integrity show that Virginia schools in a single year referred students to law enforcement agencies at a rate nearly three times the national rate. Virginia's referral rate: about 16 for every 1,000 students, compared to a national rate of six referrals for every 1,000 students. In Virginia, some of the individual schools with highest rates of referral — in one case 228 per 1,000 — were middle schools, whose students are usually from 11 to 14 years old.

The Center's analysis found that in Delaware, special schools for troubled kids helped drive up that small state's rate to second after Virginia. Florida ranked third.

The findings raise questions about what kind of incidents at school really merit police or court intervention, and provide fodder for a growing national debate over whether children, especially those in minority groups, are getting pushed into a so-called "school-to-prison pipeline" unnecessarily and unjustly.

What's happening in some schools seems almost directly at odds with guidance from the US Department of Education. Some of those questions have been addressed in recent months.

In Virginia, interviews and police records obtained by the Center confirm that referrals of students to law enforcement have eventually turned into thousands of complaints filed in courts, many of them against preteens.

Virginia isn't reliably tracing how many charges in juvenile courts statewide originate with school police. But some public defenders report they're handling multiple cases with surprisingly harsh allegations against young students.

"12-Year-Old Girl Charged With Four Misdemeanors Including Obstruction Of Justice For 'Clenching Her Fist' At A School Cop"

In southeastern Virginia, for instance, a 12-year-old girl was charged earlier this year with four misdemeanors — including obstruction of justice for "clenching her fist" at a school cop who intervened in a school fight.

Across the country, a movement away from harsh, discipline is gaining influence, especially in convincing authorities that out-of-school suspensions are counterproductive.

But certain schools continue to allow police who patrol their hallways to serve as de facto disciplinarians, with arrest powers, for all manner of indiscretions that a generation ago would almost certainly have been handled by teachers or principals.

In Green County, Virginia, last October, a school cop handcuffed a 4-year-old who was throwing blocks and kicking at teachers and drove him to a sheriff's department.

What draws less scrutiny, though, is the quiet stream of young students into courts.

For some kids, the process creates delinquency records that stigmatize them at school, and stick with them for years. Judges can order students to perform, as penance, community service, and to check in frequently with probation officers.

They can order students to wear electronic monitors, or put kids into detention before and after a hearing. A later slip-up at school, such as using profanity, public defenders say, has sent kids back to court and into detention.

Judge Steven Teske, who presides over juvenile court in Clayton County, Georgia, saw a steady rise in cases from schools when he took the bench in 1999 — with 90 percent involving misdemeanor charges, such as disorderly conduct, disrespect and fighting. He wanted to stop it.

"It should come to no one's surprise that the more students we arrested, suspended, and expelled from our school system, the juvenile crime rate in the community significantly increased," Teske said at a US Senate subcommittee hearing on school discipline in 2012. "These kids lost one of the greatest protective buffers against delinquency — school connectedness."

Teske forged a "protocol" limiting arrests at schools, and he's been urging other jurisdictions to do the same.

That wasn't long before Kayleb Moon-Robinson was arrested in Lynchburg.

In March, Stacey Doss said, she turned down a "plea deal" prosecutors offered to reduce the felony to a misdemeanor assault, but require Kayleb do time in a detention center. Doss didn't think Kayleb should be in court at all. But now, if she appeals and loses, she's scared that state law will require that the felony remain in court files forever, even if public access is limited.

Kayleb is in an alternative school now and has to return to court in early June to hear what the judge wants to do with him. Doss said the judge had a deputy show him a cell, and told him if he gets into trouble again he could go straight to youth detention.

"He said that Kayleb had been handled with kid gloves. And that he understood that Kayleb had special needs, but that he needed to 'man up,' that he needed to behave better," Doss said. "And that he needed to start controlling himself or that eventually they would start controlling him."

A public defender argued that Kayleb wasn't intentionally disruptive, but the prosecution argued, according to Doss, that Kayleb's "mental issues" were insufficient to claim "diminished capacity."

Kayleb can perform well on academic tests. But Doss had argued last year with Linkhorne Middle that it might not have appropriate services for him. He's now in an alternative school the district is paying for that's more equipped to deal with Kayleb's difficulty with sudden changes in routine, Doss said. Kayleb said he left class the day he was arrested because he wanted to be with the other kids. Revealing stats

"When A School Cop Grabbed Her She Swore. The Cop Charged Her With Obstruction Of Justice"

Henrico mom Brenda Coles, who is African-American, said a police officer at her son's school threatened to arrest the fifth-grader this year.

Her son Elijah was one of a minority of black fifth-graders at the Three Chopt Elementary School for academically gifted students. His mom has since transferred him.

Coles accuses a school cop of singling out 10-year-old Elijah last fall. She has asked, in multiple emails to school officials, why Elijah was put into a room at school with an officer interrogating him even though school officials said Elijah hadn't done anything wrong.

At school, Coles found Elijah with the officer, who was demanding to know if Elijah understood "unwanted touching" and "assault."

"My son was tormented. He had his head down on a table. He would not hold his head up," Coles said.

Coles said a classmate grabbed Elijah's shoulders in the cafeteria and Elijah jerked his arm back and it jabbed the boy.

School officials agreed the boys had engaged in mutual "horseplay," according to a school document.

Yet, Coles said, the principal and a school police officer called her and the officer told her he'd spoken to the other child's parents and decided that Elijah had committed assault.

"He said, 'If it happens again I'm going to arrest him,' Coles said. "He said, 'I do arrest fifth graders."

A letter to Coles from Henrico Police internal affairs said it investigated the officer's conduct and could not substantiate her complaint. Another letter from a school official to Coles said: "Henrico County Public Schools does not direct the decisions of Henrico law enforcement officials, including decisions regarding charges or potential charges."

William Noel, Henrico's director of student support and discipline told the Center much the same. School police "are part of the building, they're part of the family," he said, but they work for the police department.

"We don't tell them what to do," Noel said.

In eastern Virginia, public defender Linda McCausland is also concerned about students charged for behavior she thinks schools and counseling should handle.

Unlike other public defenders the Center contacted, McCausland was willing to speak publicly—as long the precise jurisdiction she was discussing wasn't named.

McCausland believes the problem is compounded by police who she says "pile" charges on kids.

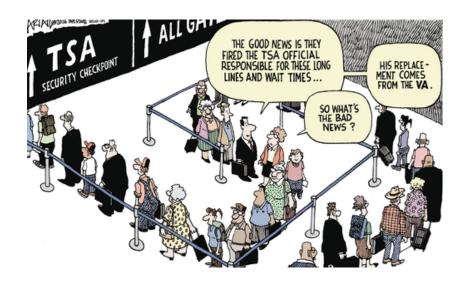
A 12-year-old client went to pick up her cousin at an elementary school, saw a fight and pulled her cousin out of it, McCausland said, and when a school cop grabbed her she swore. The cop charged her with obstruction of justice for clenching her fist, along with trespassing, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Julie McConnell, who teaches law at the University of Richmond, is a former juvenile prosecutor as well as a former public defender in Richmond. She said some prosecutors feel obligated to press forward with cases from schools, like it or not.

"Some offices have a no-plea-agreement policy," she said. "You either go to trial or you plead guilty. I think that's a really unfortunate situation in a few jurisdictions."

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FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



"At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation's ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.

"For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

"We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake."

"The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose."

Frederick Douglass, 1852

"We have it in our power to begin the world over again." -- Thomas Paine

Agent Orange Children Vietnam 2016 #9



Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie

To: Military Resistance Newsletter

Sent: May 13, 2016

Subject: Agent Orange Children Vietnam 2016 #9

Full Disclosure

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

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

U.S. Senator Calls For Military Defeat Of Invading U.S. Army: Supporting Resistance, Corwin Says "If I Were A Mexican I Would Tell You, 'Have You Not Room In Your Own Country To Bury Your Dead Men? If You Come Into Mine We Will Greet You With Bloody Hands, And Welcome You To Hospitable Graves"

[Corwin, along with many others, understood the war on Mexico was initiated by slaveholders controlling the U.S. government to grab more territory for slavery. Therefore, he, along with many others, made very clear which side he was on, as in this speech. The biographical information below is based on data from Wikipedia. He and this speech deserve to be well remembered.

[Thanks to Fabian Bouthillette for copying from a very old book. T]

By THOMAS CORWIN, of Ohio. Speech opposing the U.S. war on Mexico delivered February 11, 1847.

Corwin served in the U.S. Senate from March 4, 1845 to July 20, 1850. He was again elected to the House of Representatives in 1858, and returned to that body as a Republican and served from March 4, 1859 to March 12, 1861.

He resigned only a few days into the 37th Congress after being appointed by the newly inaugurated President Abraham Lincoln to become Minister to Mexico, where he served until 1864.

Corwin, well-regarded among the Mexican public for his opposition to the Mexican War while in the Senate, helped keep relations with the Mexicans friendly throughout the course of the Civil War, despite Confederate efforts to sway their allegiances.

Born	17	94	Died	1865.
		υ Τ.	DICU	1000.

What is the territory, Mr. President, which you propose to wrest from Mexico?

It is consecrated to the heart of the Mexican by many a well-fought battle, with his old Castilian master.

His Bunker Hills, and Saratogas, and Yorktowns are there. The Mexican can say, "There I bled for liberty! and shall I surrender that consecrated home of my affections to the Anglo-Saxon invaders?

What do they want with it? They have Texas already. They have possessed themselves of the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande.

What else do they want? To what shall I point my children as memorials, of that independence which I bequeath to them, when those battlefields shall have passed from my possession?

Sir, had one come and demanded Bunker Hill of the people of Massachusetts, had England's lion ever showed himself there, is there a man over thirteen, and under ninety, who would not have been ready to meet him — is there a river on this continent that would not have run red with blood — is there a field but would have been piled high with the unburied bones of slaughtered Americans before these consecrated battlefields of liberty should have been wrested from us?

But this same American goes into a sister republic, and says to poor, weak Mexico, "Give up your territory — you are unworthy to possess it — I have got one-half already — all I ask you is to give up the other!"

England might as well, in the circumstances I have described, have come and demanded of us "Give up the Atlantic slope — give up this trifling territory from the Allegheny mountains to the sea; it is only from Maine to St. Mary's — only about one-third of your Republic, and the least interesting portion of it."

What would be the response?

They would say, "We must give this up to John Bull." Why?

"He wants room."

The Senator from Michigan says he must have this. Why, my worthy Christian brother, on what principle of justice?

"I want room!"

Sir, look at this pretense of want of room.

With twenty millions of people, you have about one thousand millions of acres of land, inviting settlement by every conceivable argument — bringing them down to a quarter of a dollar an acre, and allowing every man to squat where he pleases. But the Senator from Michigan says we will be two hundred millions in a few years, and we want room.

If I were a Mexican I would tell you, "Have you not room in your own country to bury your dead men? If you come into mine we will greet you with bloody hands, and welcome you to hospitable graves."

Why, says the chairman of this Committee of Foreign Relations, it is the most reasonable thing in the world! We ought to have the Bay of San Francisco. Why? Because it is the best harbor on the Pacific!

It has been my fortune, Mr. President, to have practiced a good deal in criminal courts in the course of my life, but I never yet heard a thief, arraigned for stealing a horse, plead that it was the best horse that he could find in the country!

We want California. What for? "Why," says the Senator from Michigan, "we will have it;" and the Senator from South Carolina, with a very mistaken view, I think, of policy, says, "You can't keep our people from going there." I don't desire to prevent them. Let them go and seek their happiness in whatever country or clime it pleases them.

All I ask of them is, not to require this Government to protect them with that banner consecrated to war waged for principles — eternal, enduring truth.

Sir, it is not meet that our old flag should throw its protecting folds over expeditions for lucre or for land.

But you still say, you want room for your people. This has been the plea of every robber-chief from Nimrod to the present hour.

I dare say, when Tamerlane descended from his throne built of seventy thousand human skulls, and marched his ferocious battalions to further slaughter, I dare say he said, "I want room." Bajazet was another gentleman of kindred tastes and wants with us Anglo-Saxons — he "wanted room."

Alexander, too, the mighty "Macedonian madman," when he wandered with his Greeks to the plains of India, and fought a bloody battle on the very ground where recently England and the Sikhs engaged in strife for "room," was, no doubt, in quest of some California there. Many a Monterey had he to storm to get "room."

Sir, he made guite as much of that sort of history as you ever will.

Mr. President, do you remember the last chapter in that history? It is soon read. Oh! I wish we could but understand its moral. Ammon's son (so was Alexander named), after all his victories, died drunk in Babylon!

The vast empire he conquered to "get room" became the prey of the generals he had trained; it was disparted, torn to pieces, and so ended. Sir, there is a very significant appendix; it is this: the descendants of the Greeks — of Alexander's Greeks — are now governed by a descendant of Attila!

Mr. President, while we are fighting for room, let us ponder deeply this appendix. I was somewhat amazed, the other day, to hear the Senator from Michigan declare that Europe had quite forgotten us till these battles waked them up. I suppose the Senator feels grateful to the President for "waking up" Europe.

Does the President, who is, I hope, read in civic as well as military lore, remember the saying of one who had pondered upon history long — long, too, upon man, his nature and true destiny? Montesquieu did not think highly of this way of "waking up." "Happy," says he. "is that nation whose annals are tiresome."

The Senator from Michigan has a different view of this.

He thinks that a nation is not distinguished until it is distinguished in war; he fears that the slumbering faculties of Europe have not been able to ascertain that there are twenty millions of Anglo-Saxons here, making railroads and canals, and speeding all the arts of peace to the utmost accomplishment of the most refined civilization. They do not know it!

And what is the wonderful expedient which this democratic method of making history would adopt in order to make us known? Storming cities, desolating peaceful, happy homes, shooting men — aye, sir, such is war — and shooting women, too!

Sir, I have read, in some account of your battle of Monterery, of a lovely Mexican girl, who, with the benevolence of an angel in her bosom, and the robust courage of a hero in her heart, was busily engaged, during the bloody conflict, amid the crash of falling houses, the groans of the dying, and the wild shriek of battle, in carrying water to slake the burning thirst of the wounded of either host.

While bending over a wounded American soldier, a cannon ball struck her and blew her to atoms!

Sir, I do not charge my brave, generous-hearted countrymen who fought that fight with this.

No, no! We who send them — we who know that scenes like this, which might send tears of sorrow "down Pluto's iron cheek," are the invariable, inevitable attendants on war— we are accountable for this.

And this — *this* is the way we are to be made known to Europe.

This — this is to be the undying renown of free, republican America!

"She has stormed a city — killed many of its inhabitants of both sexes — she has room!" So it will read.

Sir, if this were our only history, then may God of his mercy grant that its volume may speedily come to a close.

Why is it, sir, that we of the United States, a people of yesterday, compared with the older nations of the world, should be waging war for territory — for "room?" Look at your country, extending from the Allegheny mountains to the Pacific ocean, capable itself of sustaining, in comfort, a larger population than will be in the whole Union for one hundred years to come.

Over this vast expanse of territory, your population is now so sparse that I believe we provided, at the last session, a regiment of mounted men to guard the mail, from the frontier of Missouri to the mouth of the Columbia; and yet you persist in the ridiculous assertion, "I want room." One would imagine, from the frequent reiteration of the complaint, that you had a bursting, teeming population, whose energy was paralyzed, whose enterprise was crushed, for want of space.

Why should we be so weak or wicked as to offer this idle apology for ravaging a neighboring republic? It will impose on no one at home or abroad.

Do we not know, Mr. President, that it is a law never to be repealed, that falsehood shall be short-lived?

Was it not ordained of old that truth only shall abide forever?

Whatever we may say to-day, or whatever we may write in our books, the stern tribunal of history will review it all, detect falsehood, and bring us to judgment before that posterity which shall bless or curse us, as we may act *now*, wisely or otherwise:

We may hide in the grave (which awaits us all), in vain; we may hope there, like the foolish bird that hides its head in the sand, in the vain belief that its body is not seen, yet even there, this preposterous excuse of want of "room," shall be laid bare, and the quick-coming future will decide that it was a hypocritical pretense, under which we sought to conceal the avarice, which prompted us to covet and to seize by force that which was not ours.

Mr. President, this uneasy desire to augment our territory has depraved the moral sense, and blunted the otherwise keen sagacity of our people.

What has been the fate of all nations who have acted upon the idea that they must advance?

Our young orators cherish this notion with a fervid, but fatally mistaken zeal. They call it by the mysterious name of "destiny."

"Our destiny," they say, is "onward," and hence they argue, with ready sophistry, the propriety of seizing upon any territory and any people that may lie in the way of our "fated" advance.

Recently, these progressives have grown classical; some assiduous student of antiquities has helped them to a patron saint.

They have wandered back into the desolated Pantheon, and there, among the Polytheistic relics of that "pale mother of dead empires," they have found a god whom these Romans, centuries gone by, baptized "Terminus."

RECEIVED FROM READERS

"Dumb And Dumber" "US Troops Sent There For Some Vague Political Purposes Pay The Ultimate Price"

From: Don Bacon, Smedley Butler Society

To: Military Resistance Newsletter Subject: Re: Article on Pakistan

Date: June 6, 2016

It is the Pakistan-India rivalry that really drives this affair. The two countries hate each other and US troops sent there for some vague political purposes pay the ultimate price. Hey, it's only gone on for fourteen years, why quit now?

Dumb and dumber, while US troops die needlessly in a small tribal mountainous country full of illiterate people on the other side of the earth.

General McChrystal's Report on Aug 30, 2009 included: 'Afghanistan's insurgency is clearly supported from Pakistan. . .and are reportedly aided by some elements of Pakistan's ISI (Directorate for Inter-Services Intelligence)]. . . .Indian political and economic influence is increasing in Afghanistan, including significant efforts and financial investment. In addition, the current Afghan government is perceived by Islamabad to be pro-Indian. While Indian activities largely benefit the Afghan people, increasing Indian influence in Afghanistan is likely to exacerbate regional tensions and encourage Pakistani countermeasures in Afghanistan or India."

In December 2009 at West Point President Obama stated that Pakistan would continue to be a US partner. "...Third, we will act with the full recognition that our success in Afghanistan is inextricably linked to our partnership with Pakistan."

Obama continued his US troop buildup in Afghanistan, from 32,000 in 2009 when he became president to a peak of 100,000+ in 2011.

Never before in history has a US administration openly partnered with an enemy like it has with Pakistan. All participants in, and veterans of, this mistaken "AfPak" exercise

should know that they've been taken advantage of by a criminal US government which conspires with a US enemy with a (more) dysfunctional government.

And now? Guess what....

The US government continues provide nearly \$800 million in financial aid despite Pakistan's historical and continuing support for jihadist groups that are actively fighting US troops in Afghanistan and plotting terrorist attacks across the globe.

This is despite a recent US report that the Pakistan support of US enemies continues.

Jun 3, 2016

'Pakistan did not take substantial action against the Afghan Taliban' or Haqqani Network: State Department

The Department of State noted Pakistan's unwillingness to deal with its preferred jihadist groups in the newly released Country Reports on Terrorism 2015.

"Afghanistan, in particular, continued to experience aggressive and coordinated attacks by the Afghan Taliban, including the Haqqani Network (HQN), and other insurgent and terrorist groups," the State report says. "A number of these attacks were planned and launched from safe havens in Pakistan."

After noting the military and government target jihadist groups such as the Movement of the Taliban in Pakistan that continue to launch deadly attacks against the state and civilian institutions, State says that Pakistan has done little to deal with jihadist groups fighting in Afghanistan.

"Pakistan did not take substantial action against the Afghan Taliban or HQN, or substantially limit their ability to threaten US interests in Afghanistan," State notes.

Despite State's criticism of Pakistan, the department said the country "remained a critical counterterrorism partner in 2015."

Additionally, State says that Pakistan continues to receive large sums of "Foreign Assistance."

While the amount of aid has decreased over the past three years, US continues to give Pakistan hundreds of millions of dollars a year. Pakistan received \$1.237 billion in total foreign assistance in 2013 (including \$280 million in military aid), \$853 million in 2014 (\$270 million in military aid), and \$787 million in 2015 (\$265 million in military aid).

http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/06/pakistan-did-not-take-substantial-actionagainst-the-afghan-taliban-or-haqqani-network-state-department.php

Meanwhile,

Jun 4, 2016

Dam completion signifies growing Indian influence in Afghanistan

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Afghanistan on Saturday to mark the completion of a nearly \$300 million hydroelectric dam project, the latest symbol of Indian investment in its South Asian neighbor.

The dam, originally built in western Herat province in 1976 before being damaged during the civil wars of the 1990s, was rebuilt by some 1,500 Indian and Afghan engineers, according to the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

India has poured more than \$1 billion into Afghanistan reconstruction projects and humanitarian aid, making it one of the largest donors to the war-torn country.

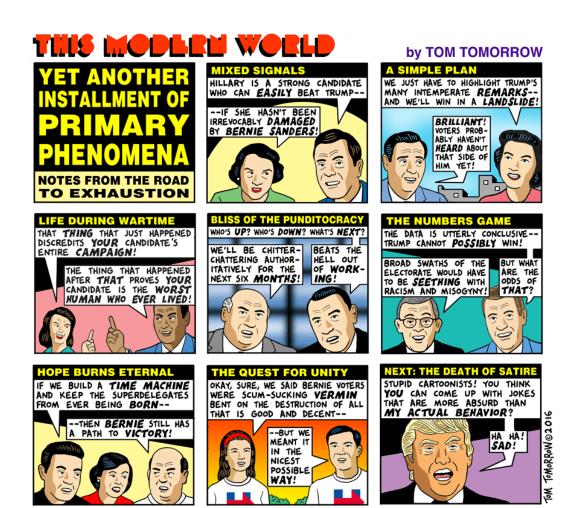
A new national assembly building in Kabul and major power line and road construction have been among the main projects funded by India. http://www.reuters.com/article/us-afghanistan-dam-idUSKCN0YQ0AB

It is India's involvement in Afghanistan that drives US-"ally" Pakistan's involvement via Taliban against the US. Understandably, Pakistan doesn't want to become an 'Indian sandwich.' The constant US overtures to India, with high-ranking visitors, haven't helped either. And of course allying with an enemy is a first, even given the unpopular drone-rocket strikes.

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Zionist Forces Open Fire On Unarmed Palestinian Fishermen, Farmers, And Level Lands In Gaza, As Usual:

"The Israeli Army Regularly Open Fires On Palestinian Fisherman And Farmers Along The Border Areas" GAZA CITY -- A Palestinian was injured after Israeli naval forces on Tuesday opened fire on fishermen, detaining four and confiscating their boats, as Israeli forces also opened fire on farmers and leveled lands elsewhere in the Gaza Strip.

The detained fishermen were identified as Hasan Miqdad, Bashir Abu Riyala, and his brothers Khalid and Rajab, according to Nizar Ayyash, speaker of the union of fisherman in the Gaza Strip.

An Israeli army spokesperson told Ma'an that two boats diverted from the designated fishing zone off the coast of Gaza City, as the army ordered them to turn back. However, the fishermen continued to sail and Israeli soldiers fired warning shots into the air before detaining the fishermen for questioning.

The spokesperson added that one Palestinian was injured during the incident and evacuated to a hospital.

Since the beginning of 2016, Israeli forces have detained at least 67 fishermen off the coast of the Gaza Strip, with the majority being later released from Israeli custody, according to Al Mezan Center for Human Rights.

The incident comes a day after it was announced that Israeli authorities decided to reduce the allowed fishing zone off the coast of the besieged Gaza Strip only two months after they had extended it.

Meanwhile, in the southern Gaza Strip, Israeli forces also opened fire at Palestinians east of the village of al-Qarara in the Khan Yunis district near the agricultural lands around the border. No injuries were reported.

Israeli military vehicles also crossed the border fence between the besieged enclave and Israel on Tuesday morning and leveled lands near the northern village of Beit Lahiya, witnesses said.

Four bulldozers, escorted by military vehicles, entered the Palestinian side of the "buffer zone" through a gate in the border fence near the Zekim military base north of the Palestinian city of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip.

Israeli military incursions inside the besieged Gaza Strip and near the "buffer zone" which lies on both land and sea sides of Gaza, have long been a near-daily occurrence.

Palestinians who work near the "buffer zone" between the Palestinian enclave and Israel often come under fire from military forces, as the Israeli military has not made clear the precise area of the designated zone.

The Israeli army regularly open fires on Palestinian fisherman and farmers along the border areas, despite a ceasefire agreement that ended the 2014 war.

Israeli Nazis

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

From: Dennis Serdel

To: Military Resistance Newsletter

Sent: June 10, 2014 Subject: Israeli Nazis

Israeli Nazis

Bassem remembers his Grandfather telling him that when he was just a boy throwing rocks at the Israeli Soldiers, that they beat him so bad that they broke both of his legs and both of his arms. When the Israeli Soldiers take him to the Doctor, a Jewish man who was in the Holocaust with tattooed numbers on his arm. The old Doctor screams at the Soldiers "You are acting just like Nazis." but the Soldiers just wave at him. One Soldier says, "Who cares about that, it was a long time ago, He should get hit by a rock in the head," as they walk away. The Doctor sets both of his legs and both of his arms, waits for his parents to take him back "Home." 12 year old Nawal says. "She heard of the Holocaust that was a long time ago, and why are the Israeli Soldiers acting the same way?" Then she slips her silky black hair around each ear ready to hear more from her Father. Nariman, a Mother of two says, "After WWII, they sent Jewish people to Palestine, then in 1948 they said, that Israel was a Country. Then dear child, they started taking our land. My Grandmother, who is dead now showed them the Deed to her land

but they just took her house and like thieves and made it their own." Just as they bulldoze 100 year old olive trees many young Palestinians in their twenties are leaving the Israeli Nazis and going to another country where the people are sane.

written by Dennis Serdel for T



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