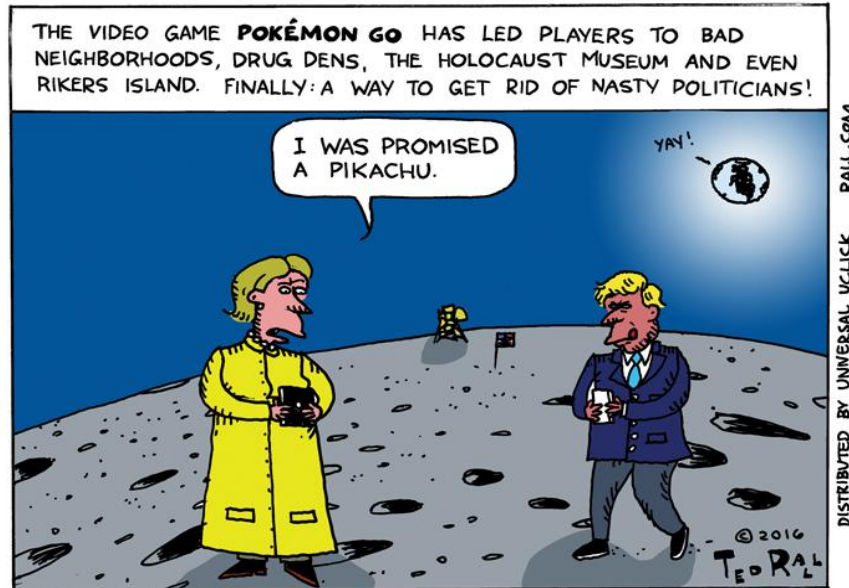


Military Resistance 14H2



Japanese Bond Market Crisis Has Global Impact:

“It’s Tough To Tell But It Does
Seem As If The Markets Are
Getting Nervous That A Tantrum
May Be Coming”

“It’s Starting To Accelerate Some Of
The Selling In Treasuries And Other
Core Fixed-Income Markets”

“The Risk Is That One Market’s Selloff
Can Easily Spread Into Other Markets”

Comment: T

It is not unusual for a fall financial collapse to be preceded by a crack in August that appears to heal, but in fact foreshadows what comes later. The world bond market is certainly a vast, unsustainable bubble waiting to pop.

“Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man’s hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare *thy chariot*, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain.” 1 Kings 18 King James Bible

Aug. 2, 2016 by Min Zeng, Wall Street Journal

A deepening rout in Japanese government debt on Tuesday rippled globally, pushing up bond yields in the U.S. and Europe and highlighting markets’ vulnerability amid elevated valuation and growing interconnectedness.

Weak demand on a sale of 10-year Japanese government bond was the latest catalyst, which sent the yield on the 10-year bond in Japan to the highest intraday level since March.

Yields on U.S. Treasuries and government debt in Germany, the U.K., France, Sweden and Denmark all climbed. Yields rise as bond prices fall.

JGBs “have been leading the way lower the past few sessions and it’s starting to accelerate some of the selling in Treasuries and other core fixed-income markets,” said Anthony Cronin, a Treasury bond trader at Société Générale SA.

“It’s tough to tell but it does seem as if the markets are getting nervous that a tantrum may be coming.”

The episode represents the latest setback for the bond markets after yields globally set historic lows in July.

While yields are still at very low levels, the selloff flags the risk for bond investors buying at ultra-slim yield levels. Long-term government bonds, in particular, are prone to sharp price declines when yields march higher.

The linkage between global bond markets has been tightened due to central banks’ highly accommodative monetary policy. Negative interest-rate policy and large bond-buying programs in Japan and Europe have generated a record amount of government debt yielding below zero, driving money into Treasury bonds that offer more attractive yields.

The risk is that one market’s selloff can easily spread into other markets.

The price move tends to be magnified as many hedge funds and money managers have piled into the same wagers on bonds, with many using automated algorithmic trading strategies. Big banks, under the weight of strengthened banking regulations, don’t have

the same capacity to help connect buyers with sellers due to their balance-sheet constraints.

Investors have been hit by a few routs over the past few years. Treasury yields logged one of the biggest increases during the summer of 2013 when worries over reduced bond buying from the Federal Reserve took hold, known as the taper tantrum. Last year, the 10-year German bund yield jumped to 1% in less than two months after falling to near zero.

The selloff Tuesday sent the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note to as high as 1.57% during the session.

The yield pared its rise in afternoon trading as weaker stocks and oil prices attracted fresh buyers in haven bonds. It settled at 1.537%, compared with 1.499% on Monday and a record close low of 1.366% on July 8.

The epicenter of the selloff was in Japan where the yield on the 10-year bond settled at negative 0.053%, up from negative 0.13% Monday, according to Tradeweb.

The Japanese yield had soared from a record close low of negative 0.29% on July 27, which means a considerable price loss for investors snapping up the debt at the rock bottom level.

Some money managers are concerned that Japanese government bonds could be the source of a new tantrum in the global bond markets, since officials in Japan tapped both fiscal and monetary stimulus to tackle soft growth and low inflation that has been nagging the world's third-largest economy for years.

Investors have been shedding Japanese government bonds since Friday when the Bank of Japan announced what amounted to modest policy tweaks, dashing expectations of an interest-rate cut further into negative territory and an expansion of asset purchases.

Meanwhile, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's cabinet approved a 28 trillion yen (\$274.4 billion) government stimulus package Tuesday. Bond investors are concerned that Japan may need to boost government debt issuance to fund the fiscal spending, which may shrink the value of outstanding bonds.

Despite the setback, many investors don't expect a big rise in bond yields to be sustained as long as the world is stuck in low growth and inflation mode. The Federal Reserve has been patient in raising interest rates and the go-slow approach has reduced investors' worries over a significant increase in yields.

While global markets have quickly recovered after a recent swoon, analysts said it would take time to gauge the impact from the U.K.'s exit from the European Union, which clouds the global growth and inflation outlook.

Richard Gilhooly, head of interest-rate strategy at CIBC World Markets Corp., said the selloff driven by "this mini-tantrum in JGBs" offers a buying opportunity in Treasuries as he doesn't expect the rise in yields to last. Mr. Gilhooly said lower oil prices are keeping inflation in check, and Treasuries still offer protection for capital in case stocks sell off.

Some money managers said bonds would be in for a rough ride if more countries follow Japan to tap fiscal spending as central banks, via their monetary stimulus, have failed to boost the global economy.

Questions have been growing lately that central banks may be reaching limits in policy options.

“The fiscal stimulus will pick up, which is inflationary,” said Zhiwei Ren, managing director and portfolio manager at Penn Mutual Asset Management Inc., which has \$20 billion in assets under management.

“People who bought bonds today will wake up in a few years with sizable loss.”

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action: Taliban Truck Bomb Hits Northgate Hotel For Foreign Military Personnel In Kabul



[Graphic: flickr.com/photos]

1 AUGUST 2016 Al Jazeera and agencies

Three Taliban attackers and one policeman are dead after an attack on Kabul's Northgate Hotel, a facility providing life-support services to foreign military personnel in the Afghan capital.

Three policemen were wounded during a battle with insurgents as they tried to enter the hotel through a gap made when they detonated a truck filled with explosives, General Abdul Rahman Rahimi, head of Kabul police, said.

Tremors from the massive truck bombing, which was preceded by a power outage, were felt across the city.

A statement from the Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, which it said had caused “dozens of casualties”, and added its fighters had entered the compound.

Northgate, close to the US-run Bagram air base north of Kabul, is a heavily guarded compound with blast walls and watchtowers.

Foreign guesthouses have been a regular target of insurgent attacks since the Taliban began their war to topple the Kabul government.

After the attack, Afghan security forces closed off streets around the site, which is east of Kabul's main international airport and on the way to the sprawling Bagram air base north of the capital.

Aug 03 2016 Khaama Press

At least three soldiers of the Afghan National Army (ANA) forces were wounded in an explosion in Herat city located in western part of Afghanistan.

According to the local officials, the incident took place in Chawk-e-Gulha area of the city late on Tuesday afternoon.

The officials further added that a magnetic bomb planted in an army vehicle was detonated.

He said the health condition of the wounded soldiers and civilians is satisfactory and are undergoing treatment in the hospital.

POLICE WAR REPORTS

Chicago Police Shoot Unarmed Black Teen In The Back: “Oppenheimer Accused The Officer Who Fired The Fatal Shot Of Intentionally Shutting Down His Body Camera So No Footage Would Capture That Moment”

One Officer Can Be Heard Saying, ‘Fuck, Now I’m Going To Get A 30-Day Suspension’”

“Video Shows A Few Officers Appearing To Commend Each Other After The Shooting, Shaking Hands”

05 August 16 By Dan Hinkel and Jeremy Gerner, Chicago Tribune

Videos from the fatal shooting of teenager Paul O’Neal by Chicago police show officers firing down a street as O’Neal sped away from them in a reportedly stolen car and, moments later, officers handcuffing O’Neal as he lay mortally wounded behind a South Shore home.

Acting with uncharacteristic swiftness, Chicago officials on Friday made public nine videos in all. Shortly before the 11 a.m. release, the head of the Chicago police oversight agency called the video footage “shocking and disturbing” and said that her heart went out to the family of 18-year-old O’Neal.

The dead teen’s family was so distraught after viewing videos at the Independent Police Review Authority headquarters Friday morning that they left without making any public comment, their lawyer told reporters.

Outside of IPRA’s offices at Chicago and Ashland avenues, Michael Oppenheimer, the lawyer for O’Neal’s family, called the video footage “beyond horrific” and said he plans to call for a special prosecutor to look into the shooting of the unarmed teen.

“There is no question in my mind that criminal acts were committed,” said Oppenheimer, a former prosecutor. “What I saw was pretty cold-blooded.”

The videos show officers firing on the reportedly stolen Jaguar as it drove away from them, and their shots appear to place officers further down the street in danger of being shot.

The city’s use of force policy explicitly bars police from firing at a moving vehicle if it represents the only threat against officers.

The videos capture at least 15 shots being fired in about five seconds as the Jaguar passed the officers and drove away.

The video then showed the Jaguar hitting a police SUV, and O’Neal took off running as police pursued him behind some homes, running up driveways and jumping fences.

The clips do not show the actual fatal shooting that happened in a backyard, but the devices record about four more shots.

The fatal shot itself was not captured on video, department officials said, even though the officer who chased and shot O'Neal was wearing a body camera.

Department officials have not said why the camera did not record the shooting.

In the minutes after the shooting, the officers' comments made clear that at least one of them suspected O'Neal had shot at them.

"They shot at us, too, right?" an officer asked.

According to Oppenheimer, one officer can be heard saying, "Fuck, now I'm going to get a 30-day suspension."

O'Neal's family is suing the department.

Ja'Mal Green, a spokesman for the O'Neal family Green said he was disturbed by one video that showed a few officers appearing to commend each other after the shooting, shaking hands.

"They did everything but high-five each other," Oppenheimer said.

Oppenheimer said the videos expose the need to improve officers' training.

"This goes down to training on race, this goes down to training on the community," he said. "There's a lot that needs to be done. Some of it has been done. We have a long way to go."

Oppenheimer accused the officer who fired the fatal shot of intentionally shutting down his body camera so no footage would capture that moment.

"They decided they would control this, so the cover-up has begun," he said.

Green said the officers showed no remorse, letting O'Neal lie handcuffed "for a long time."

"That was very shocking to me," he said. "...It was very hard for me to watch this video as well."

Before the release of the videos, Sharon Fairley, IPRA's chief administrator, said in a statement that the agency is proceeding "as deliberately and expediently as possible in pursuit of a swift but fair determination" into the black teen's shooting.

In a statement, Fairley wrote that the agency is proceeding "as deliberately and expediently as possible in pursuit of a swift but fair determination" into O'Neal's shooting.

The footage, "as shocking and disturbing as it is," Fairley said, "is not the only evidence to be gathered and analyzed when conducting a fair and thorough assessment of conduct of police officers in performing their duties."

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson took quick action after the shooting, stripping three officers who opened fire at O'Neal of their police powers and saying it appeared they had violated departmental policies.

Chicago police officers tried to stop O'Neal about 7:30 p.m. July 28 in the South Shore neighborhood as he drove a Jaguar convertible reported stolen in Bolingbrook, police said. Surveillance cameras tied O'Neal and three others to a spree of car thefts, officials in the suburb said.

O'Neal struck two Chicago police vehicles in the sports car, and two officers fired at him while he was in the car, authorities said. O'Neal fled from the car, police said, and a third officer chased him behind a home. After O'Neal refused to stop, the officer shot him.

O'Neal, who was unarmed, died of a gunshot wound to the back, authorities said.

The city's quick moves after O'Neal's shooting show how much has changed in the eight months since the release of video of a white police officer shooting black 17-year-old Laquan McDonald 16 times. The officer who shot McDonald, Jason Van Dyke, is charged with murder.

The McDonald video — and long-simmering dissatisfaction with police use of force among many African-Americans — led to sustained protests, and the U.S. Justice Department launched an investigation to determine whether police had systematically violated residents' rights. Federally enforced changes could come from that ongoing investigation, and Emanuel has announced or enacted a raft of reforms to policing and officer oversight.

Johnson broke with tradition by saying police appeared to have violated departmental policy in the O'Neal case. The superintendent, who was appointed by Emanuel amid the political crisis sparked by the McDonald video, issued an unusual departmentwide memo saying that the information he had on the shooting "left (him) with more questions than answers."

The case also represents an about-face for city officials who have previously fought to prevent the release of videos of police shootings for as long as possible. In February, Emanuel announced the city would start releasing videos of shootings and other major uses of force within two to three months. Friday's anticipated release would come just eight days after the shooting.

The three officers are stripped of police authority pending an inquiry by IPRA, which is also in transition. As detailed in a recent Tribune investigation, IPRA has long conducted superficial investigations and recommended light punishments.

Emanuel has announced plans to abolish the agency and replace it with a more effective department, though neither he nor his allies have announced any details. Meanwhile, IPRA's leader, former federal prosecutor Fairley, has sought to reform the department even as it faces its demise.

Under Fairley, who was appointed in the wake of the McDonald video's release, IPRA has ruled more police shootings unjustified in the past two months than it had in the prior nine years.

Two of the shootings IPRA recently ruled unjustified involved officers shooting at vehicles, as they appear to have done in O'Neal's case. In both of the shootings ruled unjustified, IPRA determined the officers faced no serious danger when they fired.

More Backshooting Cowards In Blue At Work: But These LAPD Assassins Sue For Damages; Claim They're Being Discriminated Against For Killing Unarmed Black Man; 'Ford Was Sprawled On The Ground When Police Shot Him In The Back'

06 August 16 By Carimah Townes, ThinkProgress

Two years after police gunned down Ezell Ford, an unarmed black man who suffered from bipolar disorder and schizophrenia, the officers involved sued the city of Los Angeles for racial discrimination.

According to Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Officers Sharlton Wampler and Tony Villegas, who are Caucasian and Latino, respectively, they've been "benched" because of their race.

Neither officer was prosecuted or fired from the job altogether. Wampler and Villegas were only removed from the field and placed on desk duty.

But on Wednesday they filed a lawsuit claiming they've been "denied assignments, transfers, overtime, coveted assignments, advancement in rank and other opportunities for employment" since 2014. The two argue that their race and Ford's race informed their punishment, and that they've suffered ever since the shooting.

"An African-American officer that was recently involved in a lethal shooting of an individual that was found out of policy by the Police Chief and the Police Commission, was only taken out of the field for a short period of time and is now in a highly sought-after position in Metropolitan Division," their lawsuit states.

“Clearly, there is a different standard of discipline meted out to officers solely on account of their race and color of their skin.”

Wampler and Villegas seek monetary compensation for what they believe are clear signs of racial bias in the form of lost wages and reputation damage.

“The race of plaintiffs, and the race of the African-American that was shot by plaintiffs, while performing their duties as peace officers, was a substantial motivating reason for causing damages and injuries to plaintiffs,” says the lawsuit.

The two gang enforcement officers shot Ford following an “investigative stop” in August 2014.

The 25-year-old was walking around his neighborhood, when Wampler and Villegas decided to stop him because he looked nervous.

According to the LAPD’s version of events, Ford didn’t follow orders when they pulled up in their car, fought with Wampler, and reached for the officer’s gun.

But witnesses painted a very different story, saying there was no struggle at all and Ford was sprawled on the ground when police shot him in the back.

“They laid him out and for whatever reason, they shot him in the back, knowing mentally, he has complications,” Ford’s cousin reported at the time. “Every officer in this area, from the Newton Division, knows that — that this child has mental problems.”

The Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners, a civilian oversight committee with no authoritative power, investigated the shooting and unanimously agreed that Wampler and Villegas used excessive force.

Nevertheless, LAPD Police Chief Charlie Beck cleared the officers of wrongdoing.

The decision was based on investigators’ alleged discovery of DNA on Wampler’s gun and scratch marks on the officer’s hands.

One year after they avoided prosecution, Wampler and Villegas are now claiming that they’ve been retaliated against internally because of their race and “politically”-motivated commissioners who found them at fault.

But the fact that Wampler and Villegas are still on the job highlights a privilege that cops across the country enjoy.

It is extremely rare for them to face criminal charges, but it is also rare that they’re punished at all. Most officers have strong union protections that almost guarantee they can’t be fired. Those accused of wrongdoing get monetary compensation and have their records cleared. On the rare occasion that an officer is fired for something, union representatives are heavily involved in the appeals process, which tends to happen behind closed doors, and the terminated cops are reinstated.

In Los Angeles, no officer has been charged for a fatal shooting in the last 15 years, despite shooting an average of one person a week. In 2015, the department accounted for the most fatal shootings by a police force in the U.S.

The ‘Skullcap Crew’ Of Chicago Police Practiced Unrestrained Violence Against Anybody They Wished:

“Acts Of Brutality, Intimidation And Harassment” “Aggressive Policing Became A Form Of Neighborhood Terror”

“Fuck Jesus ... And You Too, You Cunt Bitch”

“Today All The Skullcap Crew Members Except Seinitz Remain On The Force”

03 August 16 By Alison Flowers, Anna Boisseau, Kari Lydersen, Madison Hopkins and Rajiv Sinclair, Guardian UK

When Ebony Buggs followed the noise of commotion to a vacant unit below her apartment on Chicago’s West Side, she found a group of men beating teens from the neighborhood.

“I’m like, ‘Who the eff is you?’” she said of the February 2012 incident.

One man grabbed her and punched her in the face, according to Buggs, now 26.

Buggs’ mother, seeing her daughter lying on the ground, threatened to call the police.

“We are the police,” one of the men responded, as he grabbed her phone and threw it, Buggs’ mother recounted.

The man who Buggs alleges beat her is Edwin Utreras. He was part of a group of five officers that city residents dubbed the “Skullcap Crew”, who patrolled the city’s South Side public housing communities until they were torn down in the city’s redevelopment efforts, marked by forced relocation.

The members of this crew – Edwin Utreras, Robert Stegmiller, Christ Savickas, Andrew Schoeff and Joe Seinitz – have together faced at least 128 known official allegations from more than 60 citizen-filed complaints over almost a decade and a half. They have also been named in more than 20 federal lawsuits.

Citizens have repeatedly accused these men of acts of brutality, intimidation and harassment – costing the city hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal settlements.

Yet over the course of their careers, these officers have received little discipline – a two-day suspension, a five-day suspension, a reprimand – according to city data. Instead, they have won praise from the department, accruing more than 180 commendations.

All of them remain on the force except Seinitz, who resigned in 2007.

Chicagoans have long complained of unchecked brutality and violence by police officers in the city’s impoverished, African American neighborhoods – much of it before the department gained international notoriety from a video that showed 17-year-old Laquan McDonald’s death by 16 police bullets.

But only a small subset of officers are responsible for the vast majority of these complaints, according to a Guardian analysis of a new citizen complaint database. Most officers, about 80% of the total force, have zero to four complaints against them.

The Guardian’s analysis of known accusations from complaints against members of the Skullcap Crew shows that at least a third of these claims include use of force violations, with almost half of them involving injuries.

The allegations also include at least five strip searches and more than 20 claims of false arrest or planting drugs.

The vast majority of these known allegations, 87%, were filed by African Americans. And African Americans accounted for 100% of the victims of verbal abuse and false arrest allegations.

Very few of these allegations, however, were sustained and even fewer were punished.

The Citizens Police Data Project, a repository of more than 56,000 official complaints against police, has found that less than 3% of Chicago police misconduct complaints lead to disciplinary action (including minor interventions, such as reprimands), with even lower rates for African American complainants, and for officers charged with high numbers of complaints, like the Skullcap Crew.

Out of the more than 60 citizen-filed misconduct complaints against the Skullcap Crew members, only six complaints resulted in a sustained finding and a recommendation of disciplinary action. Other complaints indicate “no action taken” or a pending decision.

But even as the department has vowed to improve its relationship with communities, particularly African Americans, Utreras and the other three Skullcap Crew members who remain on the force have continued to receive complaints since their time together in Public Housing South.

As recently as February 2016, Utreras and Stegmiller have been the subject of complaints for alleged illegal arrest.

After her encounter with Utreras, Buggs spent the night in jail facing a charge of battery to a police officer. “That is like one of the worst feelings, to get turned around and get locked up and you didn’t do anything,” she says.

The state’s attorney’s office later dropped the charge against Buggs on the day it was set for trial, according to Buggs’ attorney. She filed a civil rights lawsuit in January 2013 against Utreras and the City of Chicago.

In legal filings, Utreras denied all abuse allegations, but in a deposition, he did admit to hitting her, in response to Buggs’ touching his arm:

A: Basically spun around as in one motion. My open hand, I believe, struck Ebony Buggs, I believe in her right cheek area or something like that.

Q. Were you aiming for her face?

A. No. I just kind of aimed going backwards. Hoping to strike an impact area.

Q. What’s an impact area?

A. Chest, head, possibly the arms. Impact areas.

Q. What part of your hand made contact with Ms Buggs’ face?

A. The back of my hand.

Q. Did your knuckles make contact with her face?

A. Possibly.

Buggs lost the case.

“It basically came down to a police officer’s word against hers, and those cases ... unless you have a video, are pretty hard to win,” said James Baranyk, Buggs’ lawyer.

Attempts to reach the Skullcap Crew officers at personal phone numbers were not successful. Stegmiller declined to comment in person. The Chicago police department provided this statement regarding the officers’ misconduct complaint and lawsuit history:

“The Chicago police department takes allegations of misconduct seriously and has comprehensive procedures in place to investigate any incident where our stringent standards are not met. While CPD does not comment on pending litigation, in instances where misconduct has been substantiated, those individuals responsible are held fully accountable for their actions. Additionally, the department has recently created a new Bureau of Professional Standards that has been tasked to ensure that our members treat every resident with courtesy and respect.”

“Fuck Jesus ... And You Too, You Cunt Bitch”

“If you saw them coming up on Wabash or State street, you know what time it is. Skullcap Crew is out,” says Pete Haywood, 52, a former resident of Stateway Gardens, a public housing project in an area once considered one of the nation’s poorest neighborhoods. “They put on those skullcaps and them leather gloves. They’re not coming to play.”

Even among a police unit known as Public Housing South that generated a high number of brutality complaints, these five officers were particularly feared. Haywood, a city bus driver who calls himself a “Peter Pan criminal” for his former gang activity, remembers that residents would lock their doors when the Skullcap Crew would come around.

“You figure these people are here to protect and serve, but when they come, you more so afraid of them than you is of people who is gang-banging,” says Haywood.

Ask Diane Bond.

On 13 April 2003, members of the Skullcap Crew allegedly confronted Bond, a 48-year-old mother of three, outside her Stateway Gardens apartment, then forcibly entered the apartment with her, Bond alleges.

For no apparent reason, they beat her, ransacked her room and destroyed her belongings, she reported.

They threatened to plant drugs and otherwise terrorized her, her son and others, she reported.

She charged in a lawsuit that an officer forced her to move aside her panties and show him “the most private areas of her body” repeatedly in search of drugs; none were found.

One officer allegedly punched Bond in the face and knocked a picture of a brown-skinned Jesus to the floor, saying, “Fuck Jesus ... and you too, you cunt bitch,” according to both her federal lawsuit and journalist Jamie Kalven, who first documented the incident.

Bond’s lawsuit resulted in a settlement, and her case ultimately gave rise to a separate lawsuit, Kalven v City of Chicago, in which the Illinois appellate court ruled in 2014 that police misconduct records are public information.

Bond also filed misconduct complaints against the officers. But like most citizen complaints, they resulted in no discipline.

Rather, Bond and her family experienced more abuse and intimidation from the Skullcap Crew, as alleged in legal filings.

Chicago's public housing developments were until the early 2000s policed by the housing authority's own set of officers. But in pursuit of better security, funding for public housing patrols was transferred to the Chicago police department in 2000, with promises that included more officers on car and foot patrols.

For many residents, this saturation of patrols and aggressive policing became a form of neighborhood terror.

Officers in this unit logged a high number of complaints.

In one 2001 incident, Public Housing South officers raided a basketball game in the Stateway Gardens housing project, terrorizing the crowd and players, as later described in a federal class action lawsuit. The city ultimately settled the lawsuit for a half-million dollars.

"The police methodically subjected nearly all of the people present – from babies and young children with their mothers watching the games to basketball players in full uniform – to invasive, warrantless searches of their bodies and personal effects," said Craig Futterman, a University of Chicago attorney representing the plaintiffs, in a statement.

The Skullcap Crew – also called the Skinhead Crew by residents – were known for particular brutality.

Utreras, now an 18-year veteran of the force, tops the list with 37 known misconduct complaints, as archived in the Citizens Police Data Project and in subsequent Freedom of Information Act requests, which indicate he has only been disciplined once – a five-day suspension for threatening a public defender. Schoeff has the fewest known number of complaints at seven, according to the Citizens Police Data Project. The rest of the crew each have complaints in the double-digits.

Many complaints were disqualified because the complainant did not visit the Independent Police Review Authority office to sign an affidavit.

And even when citizens did follow up, police often "won" the case and saw no disciplinary action because it was the civilian's word against the officer's.

The Public Housing South unit was dissolved in 2004, but most of its officers are still on the force. The Guardian analysis of the history of the Skullcap Crew and the rest of the Public Housing South officers over a decade and a half (with three years not included in the data) found that, in addition to a disproportionate number of complaints, at least 80 lawsuits have been filed against Public Housing South officers, including the Skullcap officers, either during their time assigned to that unit or subsequently.

Public housing resident Katrina Lias came home one summer day in 2012 to find nearly all of her possessions on the floor. Her mattress was torn to the springs. Hundreds of dollars were missing. Her TVs and other electronics were broken.

Lias had received a call earlier that day to warn her that she might find her home in disarray: it was the police who had ransacked her apartment, her property manager told her, as Lias recounted.

Police said they had a search warrant for her home, but after a series of complaints and a lawsuit against the police department, it became clear police had searched the wrong home. Lias' lawsuit, which resulted in a \$48,750 settlement, names Skullcap Crew member Robert Stegmiller, who has racked up more federal lawsuits than any other Skullcap officer.

“I Didn’t Even Feel Like A Human Being,” Lias Says. “They Had No Respect Or Any Regard For My Property”

“I didn’t even feel like a human being,” Lias says. “They had no respect or any regard for my property.”

After two days of cleaning up, she had to throw almost everything away and start over.

Stegmiller is named in 13 other federal lawsuits, one of which is pending. Nine cases have settled; the rest have been dismissed or decided in his and other co-accused officers' favor.

One lawsuit alleges that Stegmiller and co-accused officers assaulted a Chicago boy on his walk home from school, slamming his head into a fence, causing him to bleed.

In another lawsuit, officers including Stegmiller are accused of interrupting an unarmed man’s 911 call for emergency assistance; drawing their guns; spraying him with pepper spray; breaking his window; dragging him from his car; punching, kicking and hitting him; destroying his cellphone; hog-tying him and arresting him without cause, which later caused the citizen to lose his job.

Stegmiller is accused in 26 known misconduct complaints. Only two of the known complaints against Stegmiller have been “sustained”, and the only discipline in those cases was a reprimand and a note on his record.

In the complaint narratives obtained for this story, Stegmiller is accused of violence against citizens, including 12 use of force violations (punching, choking, slapping, beating, pulling out a braid and slamming a citizen’s head against a car); inappropriately searching and touching a woman between her legs; as well as multiple money, property and inventory allegations, including shorting inventory or not properly accounting for confiscated money, for which he received a reprimand.

Today all the Skullcap Crew members except Seinitz remain on the force.

Schoeff has been promoted to sergeant since the disbandment of Public Housing South, and has served as an investigator of complaints against police.

In 2011 and 2014, he investigated seven misconduct complaints, all resulting in “unsustained” findings.

Stegmiller is now relegated to desk duty, taking calls from the city’s non-emergency 311 number.

In November 2015, he was arrested and charged with retail theft in suburban Orland Park, where he was accused of stealing more than \$300 worth of men’s clothing, baby supplies, Christmas decorations and other merchandise from a Target store. Police records also indicate Stegmiller went back to the store for a second cart of merchandise before his arrest, captured on surveillance video.

The case is pending in Cook County, where Stegmiller has qualified for a treatment program to drop his misdemeanor charge.

Since leaving the force in 2007, Seinitz held a variety of jobs, including training security forces for the Department of Defense in Iraq, according to his social media accounts and online résumés. Meanwhile, he has apparently continued to weigh in on criminal justice issues, via social media.

On 9 November 2015, “Joe Joe Seinitz” commented on a Facebook post about Tyshawn Lee, a nine-year-old African American boy lured into an alley and executed by Chicago gang members:



Utreras has recently been named in filings for a federal criminal prosecution against a man accused of a 2006 drug-related murder. Lawyers for the defendant are challenging the truthfulness of Utreras’ affidavit for a search warrant.

The jury in Ebony Buggs’ lawsuit wasn’t allowed to hear about Utreras’ record of allegations. But Buggs learned about it, including Bond’s sexual abuse claims. Buggs said she would “rather get punched in the head” than, like Bond reported, have Utreras “feeling on me”.

Months after she lost her case in 2014, Buggs recounts that she saw Utreras at a Chuck E Cheese’s restaurant, where he was working security (Chuck E Cheese’s confirmed his employment), invoking Buggs’ fears all over again.

“I seen him,” she said, “and just turned around.”

MILITARY NEWS

Thieving Colorado Loan Sharks To Pay \$3.9 Million For Fucking Over Military Customers: Lenders Used “Abusive Collection Techniques”

August 3, 2016 By: Chhun Sun; Colorado Springs Gazette

A group of Colorado lenders agreed to pay \$3.9 million for taking advantage of military customers through illegal lending practices and money-collecting schemes, Attorney General Cynthia H. Coffman’s office said in a Monday news release.

The lawsuits - filed last year - alleged that Freedom Furniture and USA Discounters charged consumers interest rates higher than what Colorado law allows, the office said.

In addition, the lenders sued military members in Virginia by “using abusive collection techniques,” like contacting the commanding officers of military members who were alleged to owe debts, the lawsuits state.

The suits also allege that Freedom Furniture avoided paying Colorado interest rates by working with out-of-state banks, the office said.

The other lenders were Military Credit Services and USA Living.

“These settlements help ensure that Colorado’s consumer lending laws will continue to provide protection - particularly to our active military service members who may otherwise be exploited while on duty protecting our country,” Coffman said in a statement.

YOUR INVITATION:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2472 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025 or email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication.

Same address to unsubscribe.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



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

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

“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

The Nixon administration claimed and received great credit for withdrawing the Army from Vietnam, but it was the rebellion of low-ranking GIs that forced the government to abandon a hopeless suicidal policy.

-- David Cortright; Soldiers In Revolt

The Pope Signing a Guest Book



Photo by Mike Hastie taken at the museum at My Lai.

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: July 29, 2016
Subject: The Pope Signing a Guest Book

I see where Pope Francis visited Auschwitz-Birkenau today. In a guest book there, he wrote: "Lord, forgiveness for so much cruelty."

I wish he would walk the countryside throughout the Middle East and write the same thing in a guest book in those countries. The disconnect is beyond reasoning. We all know this. 500,000 Iraqi children die as a result of U.S. sanctions, diseases and bombs, and he doesn't seem to say much.

When I was nine, I stood at the Dachau Concentration Camp in 1954. This experience changed me. When I lived in Japan from 1947-49, my military father told me about the Japanese eating out of our trash cans. It is 2106, and people throughout the Middle East (to include so many other countries) are still eating out of our trash cans.

We are all living in an era that we will only be able to truly define in the future. Photographing an Agent Orange Vietnamese child with no eyes, is a metaphor for what Americans don't see. Running your fingers over the names of 504 Vietnamese civilians murdered at My Lai, connects your fingers to Auschwitz-Birkenau. How do you process all of this--you can't.

If I had walked through the My Lai Massacre site after American soldiers left, I would have eventually taken my life. The mind protects us, so we cannot feel all of this pain. The more I watch the mindlessness of millions of people in this country, the more I feel privileged to have the insights I have. As activists, we are the elite. I feel this everyday, especially when I have conversations with people who have no idea what I am talking about. They have a blank dead look in their eyes. They are profoundly obedient, and this was no more evident than watching the RNC and the DNC.

I often find myself going back to Martin Luther King Jr.'s words on April 4, 1967: "A nation that year after year spends more money on military defense, than it does on programs of social uplift is facing spiritual death." This statement is so profound for me, as I am sure it is for others. Programs of social uplift, is what keeps people from murdering 49 people in Orlando, Florida, or murdering a million people at Auschwitz-Berkenau, or murdering people on the Highway of Death, or murdering 504 people at My Lai, or murdering people at Wounded Knee, or murdering 500,000 kids in Iraq, or murdering countless black slaves in the United States. My best friends are activists, because they know that obedience is a death sentence.

Mike Hastie
July 29, 2016

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**

**“There’s An Unholy Smell
Coming Out Of The Khan
Incident And The Democratic
Convention”**

**“All This Militaristic, Patriotic Talk
Of ‘Sacrifice’ – As If There’s A
Competition Who Can Die The
Most In A War”**

**“We Got Lied Into Vietnam And Into
Iraq”**

**“In The Drive To Undermine Trump Let’s
Not Put Lipstick On The Pig Of More
Unnecessary Wars”**

From: Clancy Sigal
Subject: LET’S BE FAIR TO TRUMP
Date: Aug 3, 2016

LET’S BE FAIR TO TRUMP WHO IS GETTING BEATEN UP FOR EVADING THE
VIETNAM WAR...LIKE THOUSANDS OF OTHER YOUNG AMERICANS AT THE TIME

Tomorrow is an anniversary of Lyndon Johnson’s fake “Tonkin Bay” incident that
licensed him to escalate the Vietnam war.

Johnson lied. There was NO attack on our Navy from the Communists on 4 Aug ‘64 that
the US govt used as an excuse to fight a war that killed millions of Asians and 58,000
Americans.

A Navy pilot flying overhead that night was commander James Stockdale, later held as a
POW by the North Vietnamese.

“I had the best seat in the house to watch that event,” recalled Stockdale, “and our
destroyers were just shooting at phantom targets — there were no PT boats there....
There was nothing there but black water and American firepower.”

Trump has screwed the pooch by denouncing Khizr and Ghazala Khan, the parents of Captain Humayun Khan, a soldier who died in Iraq. Bad cess on him.

But there's an unholy smell coming out of the Khan incident and the Democratic convention. All this militaristic, patriotic talk of "sacrifice" – as if there's a competition who can die the most in a war – puts a gloss on what should be a big debate on whether war is a good thing.

It really doesn't help when liberal Democrats scream "USA! USA!" at Sanderistas who at least want to raise the question and get squelched by Hillary's praetorian guard.

Let's be extremely careful not to use Trump's current insanity as an excuse to make future wars acceptable to us.

And remember that Hillary's instincts are "liberal intervention" wherever evil raises its ugly head.

We got lied into Vietnam and into Iraq.

In the drive to undermine Trump let's not put lipstick on the pig of more unnecessary wars.

“What Are, Generally Speaking, The Characteristics Of A Revolutionary Situation?”

Comment: T

Whatever you may think of the politics of this writer, he was rather skilled at figuring out when a revolutionary situation was present:

He describes the essential ingredients:

- 1. A ruling class split and at war within itself about what to do: “a crack through which the dissatisfaction and the revolt of the oppressed classes burst forth”**
- 2. An economic crisis hammering the working class**
- 3. A war that breaks the passivity of “peacetime” politics.**
- 4. He might have added, had this been written later, a ruling class so blind and stupid it can't conceive of a whole population rising in revolution against it, and an army happy to join the mass movement from below.**

1915, Excerpts from Collapse Of The Second International & IMPERIALISM AND SOCIALISM IN ITALY, Kommunist, Nos. 1.2, 1915, By V. I. Ulyanov. [The writer used the pen name "Lenin" to keep the government from terrorizing his family. Excerpts]

For a Marxist there is no doubt that a revolution is impossible without a revolutionary situation; furthermore, we know that not every revolutionary situation leads to revolution.

What are, generally speaking, the characteristics of a revolutionary situation?

We can hardly be mistaken when we indicate the following three outstanding signs:

(1) it is impossible for the ruling classes to maintain their power unchanged; there is a crisis "higher up," taking one form or another; there is a crisis in the policy of the ruling class; as a result, there appears a crack through which the dissatisfaction and the revolt of the oppressed classes burst forth.

If a revolution is to take place it is necessary that "one is incapable up above" to continue in the old way;

(2) the wants and sufferings of the oppressed classes become more acute than usual;

(3) in consequence of the above causes, there is a considerable increase in the activity of the masses who in "peace time" allow themselves to be robbed without protest, but in stormy times are drawn both by the circumstances of the crises and by the "higher-ups" themselves into independent historic action.

Without these objective changes, which are independent not only of the will of separate groups and parties but even of separate classes, a revolution, as a rule, is impossible.

The co-existence of all these objective changes is called a revolutionary situation.

This situation existed in 1905 in Russia and in all the periods of revolution in the West, but it also existed in the seventh decade of the last century in Germany; it existed in 1859, 1861 and in 1879-1880 in Russia, though there was no revolution in these latter instances.

Why?

Because a revolution emerges not out of every revolutionary situation, but out of such situations where, to the above-mentioned objective changes, subjective ones are added, namely, the ability of the revolutionary classes to carry out revolutionary mass actions strong enough to break (or to undermine) the old government, it being the rule that never, not even in a period of crises, does a government "fall" of itself without being "helped to fall."

“Much Has Been Left In The World That Must Be Destroyed By Fire And Iron For The Liberation Of The Working Class”

Take the present army. It is one of the good examples of organisation. This organisation is good only because it is flexible; at the same time it knows how to give to millions of people one uniform will.

Today these millions are in their homes in various parts of the country. Tomorrow a call for mobilization is issued, and they gather at the appointed centres. Today they lie in the trenches, sometimes for months at a stretch; tomorrow they are led into battle in another formation.

Today they perform marvels, hiding themselves from bullets and shrapnel; tomorrow they do marvels in open combat. Today their advance detachments place mines under the ground; tomorrow they move dozens of miles according to the advice of flyers above ground.

We call it organisation when, in the pursuit of one aim, animated by one will, millions change the forms of their intercourse and their actions, change the place and the method of their activities, change the weapons and armaments in accordance with changing conditions and the vicissitudes of the struggle.

The same holds true about the fight of the working class against the bourgeoisie.

Today there is no revolutionary situation apparent; there are no such conditions as would cause a ferment among the masses or heighten their activities; today you are given an election ballot - take it.

Understand how to organise for it, to hit your enemies with it, and not to place men in soft parliamentary berths who cling to their seat in fear of prison.

Tomorrow you are deprived of the election ballot, you are given a rifle and a splendid machine gun equipped according to the last word of machine technique: take this weapon of death and destruction, do not listen to the sentimental whiners who are afraid of war.

Much has been left in the world that must be destroyed by fire and iron for the liberation of the working class.

And if bitterness and despair grow in the masses, if a revolutionary situation is at hand, prepare to organise new organisations and utilize these so useful weapons of death and destruction against your own government and your bourgeoisie. .

This is not easy, to be sure.

It will demand difficult preparatory activities. It will demand grave sacrifices.

This is a new species of organisation and struggle that one must learn, and learning is never done without errors and defeats.

The relation of this species of class struggle to participation in elections is the same as storming a fortress is to maneuvering, marching, or lying in the trenches.

This species of struggle is placed on the order of the day in history very infrequently, but, its significance and its consequences are felt for decades.

Single days when such methods can and must be put on the programme of struggle are equal to scores of years of other historic epochs.

The question has been put squarely, and one cannot fail to recognise that the European War has been of enormous use for humanity in that it actually has placed the question squarely before hundreds of millions of people of various nationalities: either defend, with, rifle or pen, directly or indirectly, in whatever form it may be, the great-nation and national privileges, in general, as well as the prerogative or the pretensions of "our" bourgeoisie, that is to say, either be its adherent and lackey, or utilize every struggle, particularly the clash of arms for great-nation privileges, to unmask and overthrow every government, in the first place our own, by means of the revolutionary action of an internationally united proletariat.

There is no middle road; in other words, the attempt to take a middle position means, in reality, covertly to join the imperialist bourgeoisie.

Trump Calls For Constitutional Ban On Gold Star Families Talking About Him



Photo: Michael Vadon/Flickr

August 2, 2016 by Paul Sharpe, The Duffle Blog

WASHINGTON — Just one week after a Muslim-American Gold Star family criticized him at the Democratic National Convention, Donald Trump called for a constitutional amendment that would ban families who have lost a child to combat from talking about him.

“Mr. Khan who has never met me, has no right to stand in front of millions of people and claim I have never read the Constitution, (which is false) and say many other inaccurate things,” Trump said in a statement. “If I become President, I will make America safe again.”

Sources say that unfortunately, both Khizr Khan and his wife Ghazala have a Constitutional right to stand in front of millions of people and claim that Trump has never read the Constitution, but Trump is calling for Republican lawmakers to add a 13th Article to fix such a glaring discrepancy in the document.

The father of Army Capt. Humayun Khan spoke about his son, who was killed in Iraq in 2004 while heroically protecting his men from a suicide bomber. He also asked whether Trump had read the Constitution, and criticized him as never sacrificing anything.

The claim that Trump has never sacrificed anything has been largely debunked however, since he would have served in the Vietnam War but slept with multiple women during the time instead. “It (was) my personal Vietnam,” he said of the harrowing ordeal. “Now that was some bad bush.”

His almost wartime military service during the 1970s came after he was commissioned in the almost military while attending the New York Military Academy in the early 1960s.

He also created thousands of jobs, which no doubt must have taken a lot of out of him.

Still, more than a dozen Gold Star families, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, more than 40 veterans from Medal of Honor hero Dakota Meyer to ex-Navy SEAL James Waters, and sources say, the campaign press secretary who is currently fielding call after call from reporters from a dark corner closet in Trump Tower, all have asked for Trump to apologize.

“I really feel for these people, I do. Honestly, they have gone through so much, can you imagine? I can’t imagine, but can you imagine? The pain these people have gone through. The pain,” Trump told reporters.

“It must be just unreal. Their son was a hero. Absolutely. No question. He fought against radical Islamic terrorists, which is the real issue. That’s the real issue. Radical Islamic terrorists would love to introduce Sharia law and restrict our most basic freedoms. That’s the real issue here.”

The GOP presidential candidate’s push for Gold Star families to remain silent follows a similar push from former President George W. Bush, who famously called in the Texas National Guard to forcibly remove Cindy Sheehan — a Gold Star mother protesting the Iraq War — from his ranch and detain her at Guantanamo Bay.

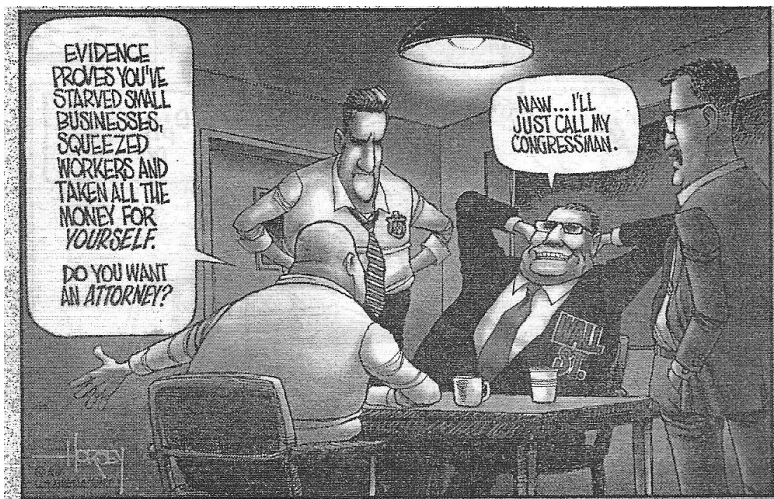
Trump later indicated that he might expand the Constitutional ban on speech to cover reporters, Mexicans, Democrats, and anyone who makes fun of comb-overs.

The Kind Of Hysterical Bullshit That Wins More Votes For Trump

“It’s Not Alarmist”
“Trump and the Republican Party Could Destroy the World”

Phil Torres and Peter Boghossian, Truthout:

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Palestinians Use Pokemon Go To Highlight Everyday Oppression:

The Game Is Being Used In A Unique Way “To Showcase The Injustice Palestinians Face Under Israeli Military Occupation”

“Twitter User Commented That Israel Does Not Need The Game As It Already “Hunts Palestinians For Fun”



The popular smartphone game is being used by Palestinians to highlight things like the apartheid wall. | Photo: Twitter / @saidshouib

19 July 2016 Telesur

Palestinians are using the viral smartphone game Pokemon Go, that has taken the world by storm, to highlight their political grievances, News.com.au reported on July 19.

While seemingly innocuous at first, the game has been subject to a number of conspiracy theories, including in China and also among Egyptian security forces, which claims its links to the CIA threatens Egypt's national security.

But now Pokemon Go is being used as a way to showcase the injustice Palestinians face under Israeli military occupation. Although it has not officially been released in the region, tech-savvy users have managed to cheat the system and download the game.

One user tweeted an image of Pikachu, a species of Pokemon, lying among rubble in a destroyed Gazan house, with the health status of the creature describing it as "Dead." The tweet by Salim Kassam read: "What #PokemonGo looks like in Gaza, Palestine."

Another image being shared widely depicts a rare Charizard Pokemon that is out of reach because it is on the other side of Israel's infamous apartheid wall that separates Israeli territory from the Palestinian West Bank.

Sharing the image, Said Shoaib tweeted: "When you play Pokemon Go in #Palestine."

Facebook user Abd Elrahman Salayma, who lives in Hebron in the West Bank, joked: "There is a pokémon down the street in the settlement ... how the hell am i going to catch it?"

Another Twitter user commented that Israel does not need the game as it already "hunts Palestinians for fun. With 99.7% conviction rate of Palestinians by Israel ... gotta catch 'em all!"

While seemingly innocuous at first, the game has been subject to a number of conspiracy theories, including in China, and its links to the CIA have raised concern by many, including among Egyptian security authorities who claim the game threatens Egypt's national security.

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One user tweeted an image of Pikachu lying among rubble in a site that has been torn down, with the health status of the creature describing it as "Dead."

Another image being shared widely depicts a rare Charizard that's out of reach because it's on the other side of the apartheid wall that separates Israeli territory from the West Bank.

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Haaretz reported last week that the Israeli Defense Force issued a warning to its soldiers, telling them not to use the game on military bases, as it's a "source for gathering information."

Soldiers are reportedly also prohibited from "checking in" on social media platforms at military bases, in fear of soldiers revealing sensitive information about military operations.

Zionist Occupation Forces Burn Palestinian Olive Trees, As Usual

July 12, 2016 Ma'an

HEBRON -- Israeli forces have reportedly torched 10 dunams (2.5 acres) of land planted with olive trees south of Hebron in the southern occupied West Bank, according to the Palestinian Environmental Quality Authority.

The Hebron office of the authority released a report on Monday that said its inspectors saw the scorched land in the Um Suwwana neighborhood near the village of al-Ramadin, and managed to take photos from a distance but couldn't access the land because it lay just beyond Israel's separation wall.

The trees belonged to the al-Sawaada family from al-Ramadin.

The authority estimated that the land was torched a few weeks ago, and determined it had been carried out by the Israeli army based on testimonies gathered by locals.

An Israeli army spokesperson could not immediately confirm the reports as the authority's statement excluded a specific date of the incident.

The Environmental Authority carries out regular field visits across the occupied West Bank to document "Israeli violations against environment in Palestine."

**Unparalleled Zionist Stupidity And
Petty Tyranny;
Palestinian Refused Permit For Her
Own Movie Premiere Opposing
Violence Against Israelis:
"Combatants For Peace Activist
Participating In New Documentary
Film Not Able To Participate In
Movie's World Premiere At Jerusalem
Film Festival"**



July 14, 2016 by Ghassan Bannoura, Combatants for Peace

Combatants for Peace (CfP) activist, Shifa al-Qudsi, was refused entry into Israel today in order to attend the world premiere of the new documentary *Disturbing the Peace*, in which she appears.

The special screening will take place today at the Jerusalem Film Festival 2.15pm, and is set to be followed by Q&A with director Stephen Apkon and the “Combatants for Peace” activists who appear in the film, including al-Qudsi — however, Israeli security forces have prevented her participation.

As a 24- year -old beauty technician from the West Bank town of Tulkarem, Shifa al-Qudsi was recruited for a suicide bombing in a supermarket in the nearby Israeli town of Netanya. Before she could complete her mission, Shifa was arrested and later convicted. She served a six year sentence in prison. There, Shifa realized that many Israelis wanted peace as well, and joined CfP after her release.

Shifa still lives in Tulkarem, Palestine.

Movement leaders, Udi Gur and Mohamad Awedah, stated: “Israel’s limiting visa policy for peace movements consistently encumbers the Palestinian voice calling for the end of the conflict from being conveyed to the Israeli public. Combatants for Peace Palestinian members’ voices are critical and non-violent. The Israeli public deserves to hear that change is possible, as Shifa’s process illustrates, and the attempt to silence her is meant to tear the two nations apart and bring despair — but we believe there is another path, the path of hope.”

The film follows its protagonists, Israelis and Palestinians, as they go from participating in violent action in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, to becoming activists in the Combatants for Peace movement, which seeks to end the violence between both sides. Throughout their journey, and against the backdrop of another Gaza war brewing, they encounter the opposition of their respective societies that which see them as traitors.

Director Steve Apkon’s documentary film deviates from the local context. Instead, it conveys a universal story: about the human ability to see beyond the narratives which we tend to accept as reality, and challenging convention in the struggle for freedom.

The journey of the film's protagonists reveals the potential within the human spirit: to liberate ourselves from stories that no longer serve us, and to create instead an alternate story and a new vision.

Combatants for Peace is a bi-national movement of Palestinians and Israelis who actively participated in the cycle of violence in the region, but have since chosen the path of nonviolence in promoting peace and co-existence.

The movement holds nonviolent protests, educational tours of the Occupied Territories, in-house meetings, "Learning Peace" lectures, and meetings of activists in Israel and in Palestine.

Combatants for Peace strives for the end of the Occupation and opposes any form of violence on either side, calling for the recognition of a dialogue between partners.

To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:
<http://www.palestinechronicle.com/>
The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."

Military Resistance In PDF Format?
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email:
contact@militaryproject.org

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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