

## **Military Resistance 14K4**



## **USA: The Rigged Election**

Comment: T

In this reactionary form of government, the candidate for President who gets the most votes does not win.

In this case, it may be Clinton.

It isn't enough that money decides who holds political power. It isn't enough that a national election merely chooses one group of exploiters and oppressors over another.

Even within those limits, the farce declares that the winner can lose and the loser can win.

One possible solution, from below:



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It's time  
to give  
class  
warfare  
a chance.

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MORE:

**Donald Trump And The  
Poisoned Chalice Of The US  
Economy:  
“A Story Of The Weakest  
Economic Recovery After A Slump  
Since The 1930s”**

# **“The Health Of A Modern Capitalist Economy Is Not The Ease Or Cost Of Borrowing, It Is The Level And Direction Of The Profitability Of Capital, Total Business Profits And The Impact On Business Investment”**

## **“What Is Trump’s Solution To All This? The Main Beneficiaries Of His Tax Cuts Would Be The Very Rich”**

November 9, 2016 by Michael Roberts, Michael Roberts Blog [Excerpts]

**The ironic thing about the (narrow) victory of Donald Trump in the US presidential election is that their ‘safe’ candidate has lost it for the Democrats, Wall Street and the strategists of capital.**

**Now they are lumbered with a loose cannon that they must try to rope in.**

Trump has won because a (just) sufficient number of people are fed up with the status quo.

Apparently 60% of voters asked at the polling booths reckon that the country “is on the wrong track” and two-thirds were fed up and angry with the Washington government – something Clinton personifies.

But remember hardly more than 50% or so of eligible voters turned out to vote. A huge swathe of people never vote in American elections and they constitute a sizeable part of the working class.

**Most significant, the most important issue (52%) for voters, when asked at the booths, was the state of the US economy, with terrorism next (but well down at 18%) and immigration (the Trump card) even lower.**

Trump won because he claimed he could improve the conditions of those ‘who have been left behind’ by globalisation, failing domestic industries and crushed small businesses. Of course, Trump is a billionaire and has no real interest or idea about improving the lot of the majority. But anger at the establishment was sufficient (just) for this egoistic, misogynist, sexual predator, rich man’s son to win.

But it is still the economy, stupid.

Trump has been handed a poisoned chalice that he will have to drink from: the state of the US economy.

**The US economy is the largest and most important capitalist economy. It has performed the best of the largest economies since the end of the Great Recession in 2009. But its economic performance has still been dismal.**

**Real GDP growth per person has been only 1.4% a year, well below levels before the global financial crash in 2008. It's a story of the weakest economic recovery after a slump since the 1930s.**

The IMF now expects the US economy to expand at only 1.6% this year. And the US Federal Reserve bank economists are now forecasting just 1.8% a year expansion for the foreseeable future.

And all this assumes no new economic recession.

The majority view of economists is that a US recession is unlikely and that the economy will pick up again next year. Indeed, US Federal Reserve chair Janet Yellen (whose job is now in jeopardy), reckons that the US economy "is on a path of sustainable improvement." The argument goes that the cost of borrowing is near zero, the American consumer is still spending robustly, the housing market is picking up and retail sales are still motoring.

**But what is important for the health of a modern capitalist economy is not the ease or cost of borrowing, it is the level and direction of the profitability of capital, total business profits and the impact on business investment.**

**When profitability falls, eventually total corporate profits fall and then some time later, business investment will contract.**

When that happens, an economic recession soon follows. In the post-war period, a sustained fall in business investment has led the economy into slump on every occasion, while personal consumption stays more or less stable, the latter only falling once the slump is underway.

And US corporate profits are falling.

According to economists at investment bank JP Morgan, US corporate profits declined 7% over year-ago levels. On that basis, they reckon, "the probability of a recession starting within three years at a startling 92%, and the probability within two years at 67%".

What is Trump's solution to all this?

His economic proposals boil down to cutting taxes, reducing government spending and taxing imports to 'protect' American jobs. The main beneficiaries of his tax cuts would be the very rich.

Under Trump, most people would see their income tax bill reduced by about 7%, but savings for the top 1% would be 19% of their income.

To balance the federal budget, government spending would have to be cut by about 20%, hitting welfare, education and health.

Raising tariffs on foreign goods and imposing punitive sanctions on China and Mexico, America's two largest trading partners, would drive up prices and provoke retaliation.

In one way, the next US president faces a worse situation than Obama did in 2009 at the depth of the global financial crash.

**This time there is no way to avoid a slump by printing money or cutting interest rates; or by increasing government spending when public sector debt has already doubled to 100% of GDP.**

Those economic policy tools have been used up.

The chalice will have to be sipped.

### **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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## **POLICE WAR REPORTS**

### **Some Police Departments Catching Hell For Acting Against Pipeline Protestors:**

**“Two Departments Have Already Refused To Return, Citing Personal And Public Objections”**

10 November 16 By Isiah Holmes, MintPress News [Excerpts]

Widespread outrage over both the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline and violent police crackdowns rages on.

That outrage is spreading even to police agencies now returning from deployment to the reservation.

Two departments have already refused to return, citing personal and public objections. As if that wasn't enough, an army of sympathizers is re-purposing social media to combat police efforts in Standing Rock.

Minnesota's Hennepin County Sheriff's Department is among that group.

**Lawmakers, according to MPR News, found police activities in Standing Rock "inappropriate".**

**It's to the point where they're considering rewriting legislation to avoid future deployments to incidents like the pipeline resistance.**

Police officials, of course, declined to comment on their return from North Dakota or their feelings on what's happening there. It's also made the task of rebuilding trust with the community an even loftier uphill battle.

"I do not support Sheriff Stanek's decision to send his deputies to North Dakota", says LT. Governor Tina Smith, "nor did we approve his decision to begin with. I do not have any control over the Sheriff's actions, which I think were wrong, and I believe he should bring his deputies home if he hasn't already."

Smith's comments split the state's government, however, and she was targeted. Minnesota State Rep. Tony Cornish condemned Smith for prioritizing "the rights of protesters over the needs of law enforcement", saying she should apologize to the cops.

**Sheriffs from Wisconsin's Dane County were more empathetic, pulling out and refusing to return.**

**According to the Bismarck Tribune, Sheriff Dave Mahoney made the decision after a "wide cross-section of the community" decried the deployment.**

"All share the opinion that our deputies should not be involved in this situation", says Mahoney. Dane County's deputies were deployed to Standing Rock for around a week. Sources report Dane County wasn't involved in recent arrests, a string of which scooped up an alderwoman from Madison Wisconsin.

Ald. Rebecca Kemble traveled to North Dakota as a "legal observer", filming and participating in prayer ceremonies. When Morton County officers—if they can still be called that—grabbed and arrested her for engaging in a riot. According to Kemble, no riot was happening.

Other Wisconsin departments have been recalled, with at least one staying behind for a more couple weeks.

One of the most renowned reporters who's faced DAPL (Dakota Access Pipeline)-related charges was Amy Goodman of Democracy Now. Goodman's team filmed dog attacks by DAPL contractors who lacked proper K9 licenses.

The contractors have also been accused of unethical surveillance, intimidation, and sabotaging the movement by attempting to make authorities believe the protesters have finally turned violent.

Among the renegade tactics is using Facebook to "check-in" at Standing Rock. According to the Guardian, over a million people—even people I know—have joined the action.

It began with a Facebook post, disclosing that Morton County sheriffs are allegedly using Facebook check-ins to track protesters.

"Checking in"—whether you're at a friend's, restaurant, or escalating resistance—pinpoints your location to a tee. Once you check in, a notification is sent out to, yes, your friends, but theoretically anyone who's capable of watching. It's yet another tool in the bag of tricks authorities have deployed against civilians, and are likely utilizing in Standing Rock.

Some detractors have dismissed the social media action as a waste of time. An editor at The Fifth Column challenged these in a Facebook post, narrating a debate on the subject he'd had. Editor Justin King pointed out that even if the check-in's wasted two minutes of time, multiplied by hundreds of thousands, that equates to two months of wasted police work.

Now imagine how ineffective the surveillance may be with millions continuously checking.

Morton County Sheriff's, Guardian reports, called claims of police surveillance misguided "rumors". Morton County, by their own account, isn't "monitoring Facebook check-ins for the protest camp or any location for that matter."

Before you trust them, consider that Facebook access for water protectors was reported as "blocked" during a military-style raid on a camp.

In addition to the general retreat of departments, two officers have already turned in their badges in support of the protesters.

North Dakota water protector Redhawk, MintPress reports, disclosed the revelation. The individual also pointed out "you can see it in some of them, that they do not support the police actions."

"Some are waking up", they continued, "we must keep reminding them that they are welcome to put down their weapons and badge and take a stand against the pipeline as well." Hints of shame could be seen in the faces of officers who confronted protesters as they blocked them from prayer grounds. As the protesters condemned officers, some of whom looked down or off to the horizon in shame.

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## MILITARY NEWS

**“50.5% Of Poll Respondents Said U.S. Foreign Policy Has Made The World Less Safe”**

**“Asked About Four Wars, Registered U.S. Voters Said Each Of Them Had Made The U.S. Less Secure”**

**“49.6% To 20.9% On Iraq, 42.2% To 18.9% On Libya, 42.2% To 24.3% On Afghanistan, And 40.8% To 32.1% On Bombing ISIS In Syria”**

**“When Asked If, Compared To Last 15 Years, The Next President Should Use The U.S. Military Abroad Less, 51.1% Agreed, While 24.2% Said It Should Be Used More”**

10.27.16 by David Swanson, <http://davidswanson.org> [Excerpts]

A new poll from an unlikely source suggests that the U.S. public and the U.S. media have very little in common when it comes to matters of war and peace.

This poll was commissioned by that notorious leftwing hotbed of peaceniks, the Charles Koch Institute, along with the Center for the National Interest (previously the Nixon Center, and before that the humorously named Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom). The poll was conducted by Survey Sampling International.



They polled 1,000 registered voters from across the U.S. and across the political spectrum but slanted slightly toward older age groups. They asked:

"Over the last 15 years, do you think U.S. foreign policy has made Americans more or less safe?"

What, dear reader, do you say?

If you say less safe, you not only agree with dozens of top U.S. officials the week after they retire, but you agree with 52.5% of the people polled. Those who said "more safe" add up to 14%, while 25.2% said "about the same" and 8.3% just didn't know.

Well, at least all these humanitarian wars to spread democracy and eliminate weapons and destroy terror have benefited the rest of the world, right?

Not according to the statistics that show terrorism on the rise during the war on terrorism, and not according to 50.5% of poll respondents who said U.S. foreign policy has made the world less safe.

Meanwhile 12.6% said "more safe" while 24.1% said it was about the same and 12.8% didn't know.

Asked about four wars in particular, registered U.S. voters said each of them had made the U.S. less secure, by a margin of 49.6% to 20.9% on Iraq, 42.2% to 18.9% on Libya, 42.2% to 24.3% on Afghanistan, and 40.8% to 32.1% on bombing ISIS in Syria.

These answers should not immediately be taken to prove that the U.S. public is universally wise and well informed, and (not coincidentally) at odds with U.S. media.

Not only is that margin pretty slim on ISIS, but 43.3% of those polled said ISIS was the greatest threat the United States faces. Meanwhile 14.1% named Russia, 8.5% North Korea, 8.1% the national debt, 7.9% domestic terrorists, and bringing up the rear with the correct answer of global warming as the greatest threat were a grand total of 4.6% of those polled.

A survey of U.S. news reports would certainly suggest a point of agreement here between the public and the media. But here is where it gets interesting.

Although the public believes the hype about danger emanating from these foreign forces, it does not favor the solution it is endlessly offered by the media and the U.S. government.

When asked if, compared to last 15 years, the next president should use the U.S. military abroad less, 51.1% agreed, while 24.2% said it should be used more.

And 80.0% said that any president should be required to get congressional authorization before committing the U.S. to military action, while 10.2% rejected that radical idea that's been in the U.S. Constitution since day 1.

**Asked if the U.S. government should deploy U.S. troops on the ground in Syria 51.1% said no, compared to 23.5% who said yes.**

Good majorities also oppose Japan acquiring nuclear weapons, Germany acquiring nuclear weapons, or the U.S. defending Taiwan against a Chinese attack. (Who invents these scenarios?)

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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**

**A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners.  
-- Leon Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution**

# CORRECTION!

## FYI: Military Resistance Website Visits: Top Ten Sources Of Visits Ranked 1-10 October 2016, NOT August 2016

- 1 USA
- 2 Germany
- 3 China
- 4 Ukraine
- 5 France
- 6 South Korea
- 7 Brazil
- 8 Netherlands
- 9 Great Britain
- 10 Russian Federation

Readers from an additional 83 have also accessed, including Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Thailand, Morocco, Chile, Vietnam, Bolivia, Croatia & India.  
Source: AWStats

## Two Birds With One Bomb



An Afghan man holds up the body of a child that was killed during clashes between Taliban and Afghan security forces in Kunduz province north of Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday, Nov. 3, 2016. Authorities say a joint raid by U.S. and Afghan forces targeting senior Taliban commanders killed two American service members and 26 civilians. Afghan officials said they were still investigating the attack and its civilian casualties, some of which may have been caused by the airstrikes. (AP Photo - Najim Rahim)

Photograph by Najim Rahim

From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: November 03, 2016  
Subject: Two Birds With One Bomb

### **Two Birds With One Bomb**

**The stork leaves a wonderful bundle of joy at the doorstep of an Afghan family, only to lose its life along with the child as it attempted to fly away. U.S. airstrikes killed two birds with one bomb so Wall Street could make a killing.**

**Mike Hastie  
Army Medic Vietnam  
November 3, 2016**

**As a photojournalist, this image is incredibly powerful. It is these kinds of pictures that helped end the Vietnam War. These pictures have the power to save lives. When that is done, this dead child's life has a profound meaning. Please forward this far and wide, because it might make a difference in exposing the truth about why this child died in a meaningless war for profit. Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.**

**Mike Hastie**

**The peace movement was right,  
the Vietnam War was wrong.  
Tom Hayden**

**Caption from the portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact [hastiemike@earthlink.net](mailto: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**

**“An Insurrection Is, In Essence, Not  
So Much A Struggle Against The  
Army As A Struggle For The Army”  
“The Russian Revolution Showed Once  
More That People Are Not Ruled By  
Rifles, Guns, And Battleships: In The  
Final Analysis, Rifles, Guns, And  
Battleships Are Controlled By People”**

From: 1905, by Leon Trotsky; CHAPTER 22 Summing Up

Of course, when all is said and done, there can be no question of a purely military victory by the insurgents over the government troops.

The latter are bound to be physically stronger, and the problem must always be reduced to the mood and behavior of the troops.

Without class kinship between the forces on both sides of the barricades, the triumph of the revolution, given the military technology of today, would be impossible indeed.

But on the other hand it would be a most dangerous illusion to believe that the army's "crossing over to the side of the people" can take the form of a peaceful, spontaneous manifestation. The ruling classes, confronted with the question of their own life or death, never willingly surrender their positions because of theoretical considerations concerning the class composition of the army.

The army's political mood, that great unknown of every revolution, can be determined only in the process of a clash between the soldiers and the people.

The army's crossing over to the camp of the revolution is a moral process; but it cannot be brought about by moral means alone. Different motives and attitudes combine and intersect within the army; only a minority is consciously revolutionary, while the majority hesitates and awaits an impulse from outside.

This majority is capable of laying down its arms or, eventually, of pointing its bayonets at the reaction only if it begins to believe in the possibility of a people's victory. Such a belief is not created by political agitation alone.

Only when the soldiers become convinced that the people have come out into the streets for a life-and-death struggle – not to demonstrate against the government but to overthrow it – does it become psychologically possible for them to "cross over to the side of the people."

Thus an insurrection is, in essence, not so much a struggle against the army as a struggle for the army.

The more stubborn, far-reaching, and successful the insurrection, the more probable – indeed inevitable – is a fundamental change in the attitude of the troops.

Guerrilla fighting on the basis of a revolutionary strike cannot in itself, as we saw in Moscow, lead to victory. But it creates the possibility of sounding the mood of the army, and after a first important victory – that is, once a part of the garrison has joined the insurrection – the guerrilla struggle can be transformed into a mass struggle in which a part of the troops, supported by the armed and unarmed population, will fight another part, which will find itself in a ring of universal hatred.

We have seen in the Black Sea Fleet, in Kronstadt, in Siberia, in the Kuban region, later in Sveaborg and in many other places that when the class, moral, and political heterogeneity of the army causes troops to cross over to the side of the people, this must, in the first instance, mean a struggle between two opposing camps within the army.

In all these cases, the most modern weapons of militarism – rifles, machine guns, fortress and field artillery, battleships – were found not only in the hands of the government but also in the service of the revolution.

On the basis of the experience of Bloody Sunday, January 9, 2005, a certain English journalist, Mr. Arnold White, arrived at the brilliant conclusion that if Louis XVI had had a few batteries of Maxim guns at his disposal, the French Revolution would not have taken place.

What pathetic superstition to believe that the historical chances of revolutions can be measured by the caliber of rifles or the diameter of guns!

The Russian revolution showed once more that people are not ruled by rifles, guns, and battleships: in the final analysis, rifles, guns, and battleships are controlled by people.

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## **The Excerpts Below May Be Useful In Understanding Current Events And Where Those Events Are Tending**

**Comment: T**

The excerpts below may be useful in understanding current events and where those events are tending.

That said, one dimension not covered below may be worth considering.

Before people, especially classes, frame a clear program to fight for, it is human history that first the negation of things-as-they-are unfolds and reaches white-hot mass rage.

People tend to first puke up what they don't want before they formulate a program and plan of action to get what they do want.

On a massive scale, world-wide, huge numbers of very angry people are expressing with crystal clarity what they do not want.

They do not want the economic system, capitalism-as-it-is.

Most do yet understand that it is what it is, and cannot be anything other than what it is now: society organized to benefit and politically governed by the 1%.

That understanding will come; is coming now, more every day.

Episodic movements from below, now in one place, now another, all over the world, are what comes first, the negation of things-as-they-are that has preceded every great mass movement forward in human history.

That is happening now.

Negation in mass consciousness of the cruelty, stupidity, and incompetence of 2015 capitalism is at the same time the birth of a defiant, new, worldwide, urban, working class movement from below.

The worldwide tectonic earthshaking that began in Tunisia in 2011 has sometimes paused, and paused again, but in general continues moving forward, everywhere.

Nothing on this world-wide scale of working class resistance from below has been seen before.

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## **“The Expropriators Are Expropriated” [The Negation Of Negation]**

Excerpts from: Capital; K. Marx; based on the 4th edition. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr and Co., 1906; Frederick Engels, Ernest Untermann, eds.; Samuel Moore, Edward Aveling, trans. 1867

HISTORICAL TENDENCY OF CAPITALIST ACCUMULATION:

Part VIII, Chapter XXXII.1

What does the primitive accumulation of capital, i.e., its historical genesis, resolve itself into?

In so far as it is not immediate transformation of slaves and serfs into wage-labourers, and therefore a mere change of form, it only means the expropriation of the immediate producers, i.e., the dissolution of private property based on the labour of its owner.

Private property, as the antithesis to social, collective property, exists only where the means of labour and the external conditions of labour belong to private individuals. But according as these private individuals are labourers or not labourers, private property has a different character.

The numberless shades, that it at first sight presents, correspond to the intermediate stages lying between these two extremes.

**The private property of the laborer in his means of production is the foundation of petty industry, whether agricultural, manufacturing or both; petty industry, again, is an essential condition for the development of social production and of the free individuality of the laborer himself.**

Of course, this petty mode of production exists also under slavery, serfdom, and other states of dependence.

**But it flourishes, it lets loose its whole energy, it attains its adequate classical form, only where the laborer is the private owner of his own means of labour set in action by himself: the peasant of the land which he cultivates, the artisan of the tool which he handles as a virtuoso.**

**This mode of production pre-supposes parceling of the soil, and scattering of the other means of production.**

**As it excludes the concentration of these means of production, so also it excludes co-operation, division of labour within each separate process of production, the control over, and the productive application of the forces of Nature by society, and the free development of the social productive powers.**

**It is compatible only with a system of production, and a society, moving within narrow and more or less primitive bounds.**

To perpetuate it would be, as Pecqueur rightly says, "to decree universal mediocrity."

**At a certain stage of development it brings forth the material agencies for its own dissolution.**

**"This Fearful And Painful Expropriation Of The Mass Of The People Forms  
The Prelude To The History Of Capital"**

**From that moment new forces and new passions spring up in the bosom of society; but the old social organization fetters them and keeps them down.**

**It must be annihilated; it is annihilated.**

**Its annihilation, the transformation of the individualized and scattered means of production into socially concentrated ones, of the pigmy property of the many into the huge property of the few, the expropriation of the great mass of the people from the soil, from the means of subsistence, and from the means of**



**labour, this fearful and painful expropriation of the mass of the people forms the prelude to the history of capital.**

The expropriation of the immediate producers was accomplished with merciless Vandalism, and under the stimulus of passions the most infamous, the most sordid, the pettiest, the most meanly odious.

Self-earned private property, that is based, so to say, on the fusing together of the isolated, independent laboring-individual with the conditions of his labour, is supplanted by capitalistic private property, which rests on exploitation of the nominally free labour of others, i.e., on wages-labour.

**[FOOTNOTE TO THE ABOVE: CLASS BASIS OF THE TEA PARTY]**

The advance of industry, whose involuntary promoter is the bourgeoisie, replaces the isolation of the labourers, due to competition, by their revolutionary combination, due to association.

The development of Modern Industry, therefore, cuts from under its feet, the very foundation on which the bourgeoisie produces and appropriates products.

What the bourgeoisie therefore, produces, above all, are its own grave-diggers.

Its fall and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable....

Of all the classes, that stand face to face with the bourgeoisie to-day, the proletariat alone is a really revolutionary class.

The other classes perish and disappear in the face of Modern Industry, the proletariat is its special and essential product....

**The lower middle-classes, the small manufacturers, the shop keepers, the artisan, the peasant, all these fight against the bourgeoisie, to save from extinction their existence as fractions of the middle-class...they are reactionary, for they try to roll back the wheel of history.**

-- Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, "Manifest der Kommunistischen Partei," London, 1847, pp. 911.

**"The Expropriators Are Expropriated"**

Part VIII, Chapter XXXII.2

As soon as this process of transformation has sufficiently decomposed the old society from top to bottom, as soon as the labourers are turned into proletarians, their means of labour into capital, as soon as the capitalist mode of production stands on its own feet, then the further socialization of labour and further transformation of the land and other

means of production into socially exploited and, therefore, common means of production, as well as the further expropriation of private proprietors, takes a new form.

**That which is now to be expropriated is no longer the laborer working for himself, but the capitalist exploiting many labourers.**

**This expropriation is accomplished by the action of the immanent laws of capitalistic production itself, by the centralization of capital.**

**One capitalist always kills many.**

Hand in hand with this centralization, or this expropriation of many capitalists by few, develop, on an ever extending scale, the co-operative form of the labour-process, the conscious technical application of science, the methodical cultivation of the soil, the transformation of the instruments of labour into instruments of labour only usable in common, the economizing of all means of production by their use as the means of production of combined, socialized labour, the entanglement of all peoples in the net of the world-market, and this, the international character of the capitalistic régime.

Along with the constantly diminishing number of the magnates of capital, who usurp and monopolize all advantages of this process of transformation, grows the mass of misery, oppression, slavery, degradation, exploitation; but with this too grows the revolt of the working-class, a class always increasing in numbers, and disciplined, united, organised by the very mechanism of the process of capitalist production itself.

**The monopoly of capital becomes a fetter upon the mode of production, which has sprung up and flourished along with, and under it.**

**Centralization of the means of production and socialization of labour at last reach a point where they become incompatible with their capitalist integument.**

**This integument is burst asunder.**

**The knell of capitalist private property sounds.**

**The expropriators are expropriated.**

### **“The Negation Of Negation”**

Part VIII, Chapter XXXII.3

**The capitalist mode of appropriation, the result of the capitalist mode of production, produces capitalist private property.**

**This is the first negation of individual private property, as founded on the labour of the proprietor.**

**But capitalist production begets, with the inexorability of a law of Nature, its own negation.**

**It is the negation of negation.**

**This does not re-establish private property for the producer, but gives him individual property based on the acquisitions of the capitalist era: i.e., on co-operation and the possession in common of the land and of the means of production.**

Part VIII, Chapter XXXII.4

The transformation of scattered private property, arising from individual labour, into capitalist private property is, naturally, a process, incomparably more protracted, violent, and difficult, than the transformation of capitalistic private property, already practically resting on socialized production, into socialized property.

**In the former case, we had the expropriation of the mass of the people by a few usurpers; in the latter, we have the expropriation of a few usurpers by the mass of the people.**

## **Summing Up:**

**[P]roletarian revolutions, like those of the nineteenth century, constantly criticize themselves, constantly interrupt themselves in their own course, return to the apparently accomplished, in order to begin anew; they deride with cruel thoroughness the half-measures, weaknesses, and paltriness of their first attempts, seem to throw down their opponents only so the latter may draw new strength from the earth and rise before them again more gigantic than ever, recoil constantly from the indefinite colossalness of their own goals – until a situation is created which makes all turning back impossible ...**

-- The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte. Karl Marx 1852

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## **Marijuana Wins Big On Election Night**



09 November 16 By Christopher Ingraham, The Washington Post

Voters in California, Massachusetts and Nevada approved recreational marijuana initiatives Tuesday night, and several other states passed medical marijuana provisions, in what is turning out to be the biggest electoral victory for marijuana reform since 2012, when Colorado and Washington first approved the drug's recreational use.

In addition to the states above, local outlets in Maine are declaring victory for that state's legalization measure, but with 91 percent of precincts reporting just a few thousand votes separate the "Yes" and "No" columns.

A similar legalization measure in Arizona did not gain sufficient support to pass, with 52 percent of voters rejecting it.

On the medical side, voters in Florida, North Dakota and Arkansas have approved medical marijuana initiatives. Voters in Montana also rolled back restrictions on an existing medical pot law.

Reformers were jubilant. "This represents a monumental victory for the marijuana reform movement," said Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, in a statement. "With California's leadership now, the end of marijuana prohibition nationally, and even internationally, is fast approaching."

California has long been seen as a bellwether by both supporters and opponents of marijuana reform. The state is home to about 12 percent of the U.S. population. Given the size of the state's economy and the economic impact of the marijuana industry there, California's adoption of legal marijuana could prompt federal authorities to rethink their decades-long prohibition on the use of marijuana.

In a recent interview with Bill Maher, President Obama said that passage of the legalization measures on Tuesday could make the current federal approach to the drug "untenable."

Still, the likelihood of a Trump White House leaves a lot of uncertainty about the fate of marijuana measures in the next four years. Under Obama, federal authorities largely took a hands-off approach to state-level legalization efforts. But an incoming administration more skeptical of drug reform could easily reverse that approach.

**"The prospect of Rudy Giuliani or Chris Christie as attorney general does not bode well," the Drug Policy Alliance's Nadelmann said in an interview. "There are various ways in which a hostile White House could trip things up."**

Nadelmann pointed to the success of marijuana measures in the midst of an evident Republican wave as a sign that support for legalization now cuts deeply across party lines. And citing Trump's often contradictory statements on marijuana and drug use in the past, Nadelmann added that "Donald Trump personally could probably go any which way on this."

With today's votes, legal marijuana is also making significant inroads in the Northeast. "Marijuana legalization has arrived on the East Coast," said Tom Angell of the marijuana reform group Marijuana Majority in an email. "What Colorado and other states have already done is generating revenue, creating jobs and reducing crime, so it's not surprising that voters in more places are eager to end prohibition."

Opponents of legalization said they were disappointed by the outcomes. "We were outspent greatly in both California and Massachusetts, so this loss is disappointing, but not wholly unexpected," said Kevin Sabet of the anti-legalization group Smart

Approaches to Marijuana in a statement. “Despite having gained considerable ground in the last few weeks, the out-of-state interests determined to make money off of legalization put in too much money to overcome.”

Votes on medical marijuana in Florida and North Dakota were decisive. Florida's Amendment 2 passed with 71 percent support, according to the Associated Press. In North Dakota, the AP reports that 64 percent of voters approving of the medical marijuana measure.

Two years ago, a medical marijuana measure in Florida earned 58 percent of the vote, just shy of the 60 percent threshold needed for passage. Then, as now, opposition to the measure was fueled by multimillion-dollar donations from Sheldon Adelson, the Las Vegas casino magnate and GOP donor. In 2014 Adelson spent \$5.5 million to defeat the measure. This year he's spent \$1.5 million in Florida, and several million more to defeat recreational marijuana measures in other states.

“This is a major tipping point,” said Tom Angell of Florida's vote. “With Florida's decision, a majority of states in the U.S. now have laws allowing patients to find relief with medical marijuana, and these protections and programs are no longer concentrated in certain regions of the country like the West and Northeast.”

The victory in North Dakota is something of a surprise as no polling was done on the measure.

The Florida amendment has the potential to be one of the more permissive medical marijuana regimes in the nation. In addition to diseases like HIV, cancer and PTSD, the measure also allows doctors to recommend medical pot for “other debilitating medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated, and for which a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for a patient.”

While the 2014 measure allowed doctors to prescribe marijuana for any illness they believed it would be useful for, the new measure requires they show the illness is severe — though the wording gives physicians considerable leeway in determining which conditions would meet those criteria.

The medical pot measure in North Dakota allows doctors to recommend the drug for a number of severe medical conditions.

With the passage of Amendment 2, Florida will become the first Southern state to enact a robust medical marijuana regime. Medical marijuana is already legal in 25 other states and the District.

“Better late than never,” said Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the drug reform group Drug Policy Alliance, in a statement. “Most states outside the South already have legal medical marijuana, but the overwhelming victory today in Florida is likely to accelerate the momentum for reform throughout the region.”

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## ANNIVERSARIES

### November 13, 1933: The First Recorded “Sit-Down” Strike In The U.S.



Hormel strikers

Carl Bunin Peace & Justice history November 9-15

The first recorded “sit-down” strike in the U.S. was staged by workers at the Hormel Packing Company in Austin, Minnesota.

When the Independent Union of All Workers (IUAW) went on strike, the company tried to bring in scab (strike-breaking) workers.

“Four hundred men, many of them armed with clubs, sticks and rocks, crashed through the plant entrance, shattering the glass doors and sweeping the guards before them. The strikers quickly ran throughout the plant to chase out non-union workers.

**“One . . . group crashed through the doors of a conference room where Jay Hormel and five company executives were meeting and declared “We’re taking possession. So move out!”** (Larry Engelmann, “We Were the Poor -- The Hormel Strike of 1933,” Labor History, Fall, 1974.)

The tactic worked: within four days Hormel agreed to submit wage demands to binding arbitration. The success of this strike reinvigorated the labor movement, which had been in decline throughout the 1920s.

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## RECEIVED FROM READERS



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

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## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

# **Occupation Troops Bar Palestinian Farmers From Their Olive Harvest On Palestinian Land "Claim That They Had No Prior Permission"**

9 October 2016 The Palestinian Information Center

NABLUS -- The Israeli occupation forces (IOF) on Saturday prevented the Palestinian farmers in Madama village, south of Nablus, from going to their fields to harvest olives, claiming that they had no prior permission.

Local farmers told the Palestinian Information Center (PIC) that Israeli soldiers prohibited their entry to their olive groves, which are located north of the village.

They added that the soldiers demanded them to obtain prior permits from the Israeli army before accessing their fields.

**During the olive harvest season, the farmers in the West Bank are either denied access by the army to their lands to pick olives or attacked by extremist Jewish settlers under military protection.**

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## **55 Injuries Reported As Zionist Police Attack Palestinian University**

8 October 2016 The Palestinian Information Center

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM -- 55 Palestinians including students were injured as Israeli police forces stormed Saturday evening al-Quds University in Abu Dis town in occupied Jerusalem.

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society affirmed that 55 Palestinians suffered rubber bullet injuries and choked on teargas after Israeli forces violently stormed the university in Abu Dis.

Jerusalem Media Center affirmed that Israeli police violently stormed the university amid heavy firing of teargas bombs and rubber bullets.

Meanwhile, Israeli police and border guards were deployed in large numbers throughout Jerusalem's Old City.

Several Palestinians were stopped and searched during the raid, some of them were shortly detained.

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## **AP Photographer Shot In Back By While Covering Clash: “One Of The Israelis Cursed Him” “As He Turned Around, He Was Shot From Close Range In The Back”**

10.9.16 Associated Press



An Associated Press photographer has been shot and lightly wounded by a rubber bullet fired by Israeli security forces during clashes in the West Bank.

Photographer Majdi Mohammed says he was covering an arrest raid in the village of al-Ram on Sunday when residents began throwing stones at Israeli forces. The forces responded with tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

Mohammed says that during the unrest, one of the Israelis cursed him and ordered him to leave. He said that as he turned around, he was shot from close range in the back of his shoulder, an area that was not covered by his protective vest.

**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."**

## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**

# **Voters Finally Beginning To Relate To Clinton**

## **“Their Perception Of Hillary Clinton Being Completely Out Of Touch With The Majority Of The Country Has Now Made The Former Secretary Of State Far More Likable”**

November 9, 2016 The Onion

WASHINGTON—Explaining that they have finally started to feel a connection with the Democratic Party nominee, millions of defeated and utterly exhausted voters admitted to reporters Wednesday they are now starting to relate to Hillary Clinton.

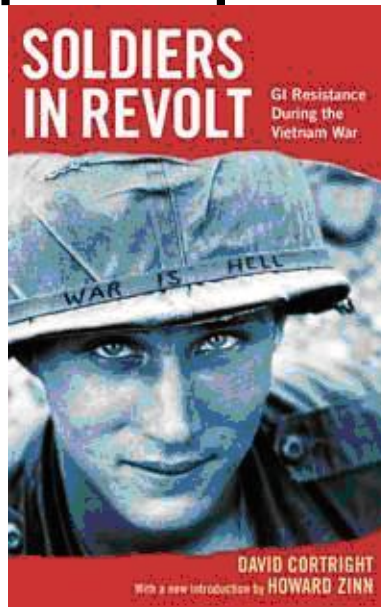
“I never thought I had much in common with her before, but after waking up today feeling so drained and beaten, I think I’m beginning to see that she and I really are a lot alike,” said 34-year-old Chicago resident Anthony Pallister, echoing the sentiments of Americans across the country who claimed that over the course of the last 24 hours, the feeling that they had suffered through a long, wearying ordeal only to be summarily rejected had caused them to notice many similarities between themselves and the 69-year-old presidential candidate.

“The more I think about how dejected and overcome I feel, the more I begin to see myself and my viewpoints in Hillary Clinton. In fact, I don’t know the last time I’ve related to a candidate this much.”

Many Americans went on to confirm that their perception of Hillary Clinton being completely out of touch with the majority of the country has now made the former secretary of state far more likable.

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## **FREE TO ACTIVE DUTY: A Vietnam Veteran Describes The Strategy And Tactics Used By Troops To Stop An Imperial War**

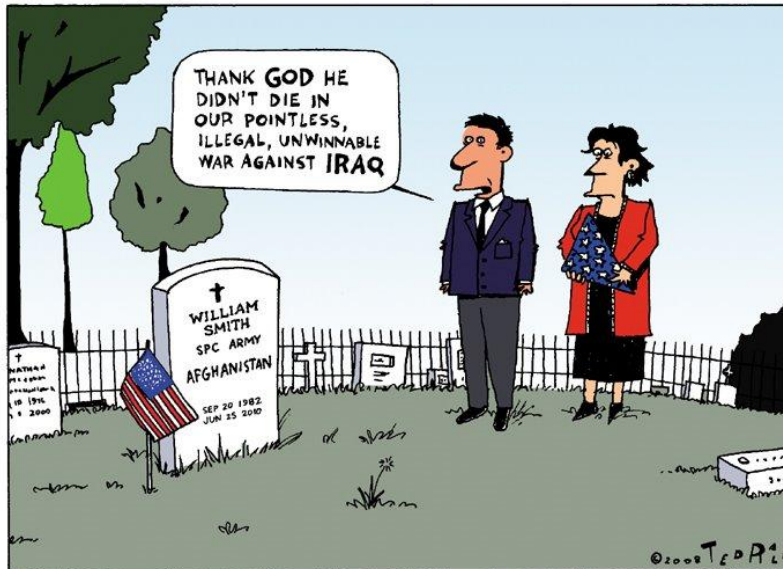


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**Military Resistance** [www.militaryproject.org](http://www.militaryproject.org)

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