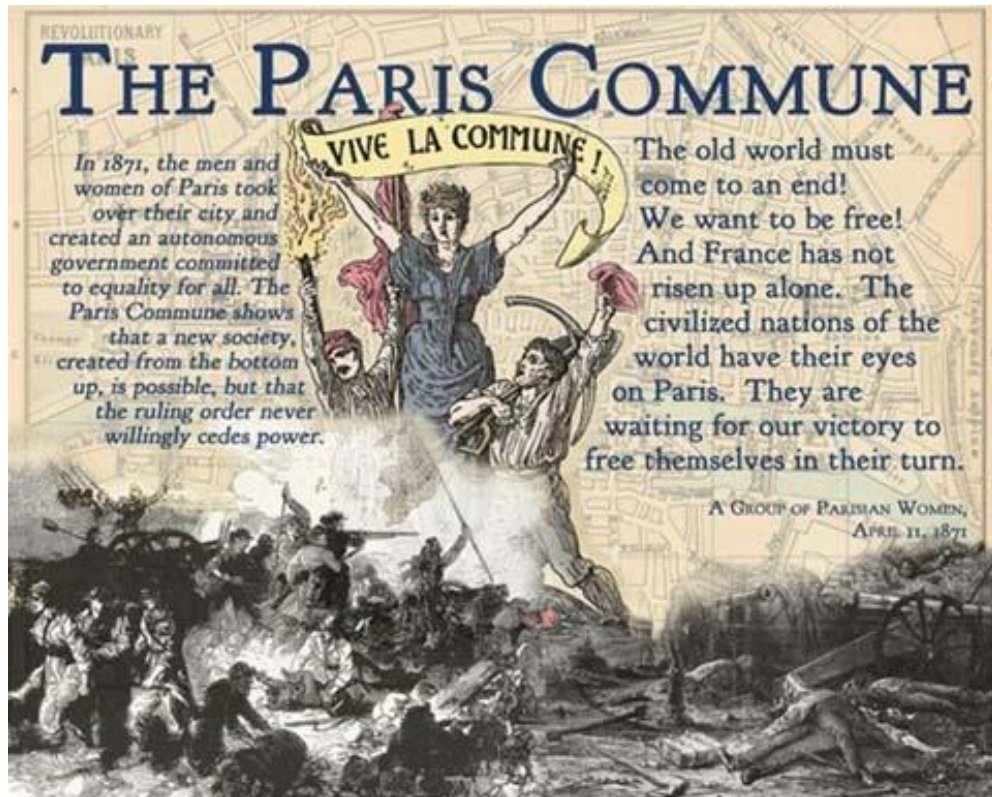


Military Resistance 15C5



[<http://ciml.250x.com/archive/paris.html>]

**146th Anniversary Of
Paris Commune:
“Paris Workers Create The First
Concrete Form Of Workers’
Power”
“The Rank-And-File Troops Sided
With The Parisian Insurgents And**

**Shot Their Own Generals Who Had
Ordered Them To Fire On The
Crowd, Most Of Which Were
Women”**

**“Suppress The Exploitation Of Man
By Man, The Last Remaining Form Of
Slavery”**

**“We Cannot Be Happy Until There Are
No More Bosses, No More Rich, No More
Clergy”**

March 20, 2015 Redline

The following article is translated from the journal Lutte des Classe (#136, May-June 2011), published by Lutte Ouvrière in France; see <http://www.lutte-ouvriere.org/>.

“The petty-bourgeois Social Democrat has once more been filled with wholesome terror at the words, Dictatorship of the Proletariat. Well and good, gentlemen, do you want to know what this dictatorship looks like? Look at the Paris Commune. That was the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.” (Friedrich Engels)

“The direct antithesis to the Empire was the Commune”— so wrote Karl Marx in his 1871 pamphlet, *The Civil War in France*. In this text, Marx not only paid tribute to the Communards, who had “stormed heaven,” he also analyzed this first proletarian revolution, which held power for two months in Paris, drawing all its useful political lessons for the future struggles of the working class.

Since 1852, France had been dominated by the Second Empire of Napoleon III.

This dictatorial state, corrupt to the core, composed of opportunists, nouveaux riches, and swindlers, had arisen because the bourgeoisie, terrified by the June 1848 workers’ uprising, had thrown itself into the arms of the first military adventurer who came along: Napoleon III.

While the second Empire took direct political leadership of society away from the bourgeoisie, it continued zealously to serve its economic interests and to develop its industry, leading to the development of the proletariat and to the renewal of the workers’ movement.

In 1864, in London, working class activists from different European countries founded the First International – the first international organization in the history of the workers' movement. In France, the 1860s saw a renewed organizational activity among the working class, together with a rising level of struggles and strikes.

In 1870, faced with growing opposition, Napoleon III went to war against Prussia (the part of Germany centered at that time around Berlin).

The incompetence, waste and corruption plaguing the imperial power led to its defeat within a few weeks.

When the laboring classes of Paris heard that Napoleon III had been defeated and captured by the Prussians, they took to the streets, proclaiming a Republic on September 4, 1870. The bourgeois republicans, whose opposition to the Empire had previously been rather tame, took over the leadership of this new Republic. In the name of the need for “national defense” – against the Prussians who were continuing the war – they formed a government led by Adolphe Thiers.

But far from trying to repel the invasion, this bourgeois republic had only one real objective right from the start: to disarm the laboring classes, which it feared more than anything else.

It had been barely 20 years since the workers' uprising of June 1848 – and that event was still fresh in everyone's memory.

“The Rank-And-File Troops Sided With The Parisian Insurgents And Shot Their Own Generals Who Had Ordered Them To Fire On The Crowd, Most Of Which Were Women”

Tens of thousands of workers were concentrated in Paris – in the building trades, public works and other industries that were booming – not to mention the large number of artisans.

Marx explained: “Paris, however, was not to be defended without arming its working class, organizing them into an effective force, and training the ranks by the war itself.

But Paris armed was the Revolution armed.

A victory by Paris over the Prussian aggressor would have been a victory of the French workers over the French capitalist and his State parasites. In this conflict between national duty and class interest, the Government of National Defense did not hesitate one moment to turn into a Government of National Defection.”

Despite the bourgeois government's attitude, the Parisian laboring classes learned to act collectively, to organize themselves and measure their forces during the months of war and the siege of Paris that followed.

Vigilance committees were formed as early as September. By October 1870, the resistance to the Prussian siege of the capital and the resulting famine was fanning the flames of revolt.

The National Guard – which had been the armed militia of the petty bourgeoisie, enrolling only those who could afford to pay – was opened to the laboring population.

This armed force of the people – which managed to win respect from the Prussian army, despite difficulties resulting from famine and siege – became the heart of the revolt.

Its elected central committee won the trust of much of the Paris laboring classes and thus became a sort of political leadership.

The bourgeoisie could not accept that the laboring population would arm itself, nor that it would organize itself and choose its own commanders.

A clash between the bourgeois republic and the working class was fast approaching. Appalled by the government's cowardice and lies, the proletariat several times threatened the government.

On January 28, 1871, Thiers signed an armistice deal with Bismarck, increasing popular anger and accelerating the revolutionary process. Thiers had to try to disarm Paris. On March 18, when Thiers' troops tried to snatch the cannons away from the people of Paris, the revolt burst out. (Those cannons had been in great part paid for by the people themselves despite the privations of famine.)

The rank-and-file troops sided with the Parisian insurgents and shot their own generals who had ordered them to fire on the crowd, most of which were women.

The institutions of political power, together with the city's wealthy, the bourgeoisie and their clique, all fled to Versailles. Paris was in the hands of the workers, and power fell to those the Parisian people considered as their representatives – the Central Committee of the National Guard.

“We Cannot Be Happy Until There Are No More Bosses, No More Rich, No More Clergy”

On March 26, 1871, elections were held for the Paris Commune, which became the center of political power in the city, under the active control of the proletariat.

With the Paris Commune, a new type of political power surged up from the class struggle itself. The proletariat was experiencing, as Marx wrote, that “the working class cannot take over the ready-made capitalist state machine and use it for its own ends.”

It was the first and the most important lesson coming out of the Commune.

The fact that they had elected a city council was not, in and of itself, a revolutionary act.

What counted was that the armed proletariat had imposed its influence, its class domination on society and, in so doing, had transformed political power.

The Paris Commune was not a talkative but impotent parliamentary organism, like those the bourgeoisie had already produced so many times.

The Commune was a working body, which exercised both legislative and executive powers, thus allowing active and direct control by the population over what was decided and done. Decisions were taken and applied directly by the exploited themselves.

Neither the rich nor their lackeys imposed their choices. For once, the masses did.

The National Guard, uniting the armed population, was already the antithesis of the bourgeoisie's permanent standing army.

The Commune went one step further by decreeing the abolition of the standing army. As Auguste Blanqui, a revolutionary leader in the 1848 revolution, had already proclaimed two decades earlier, "he who has iron, has bread!"

By abolishing the standing army and forging a new state whose power was not based on a repressive force separate from the population, but on the arming of the population as a whole, the Commune revived the revolutionary history of the proletariat.

All the officials of the Commune, from then on elected by the people, became accountable to the people and recallable by them at any time.

They were paid workers' wages. Thus the laboring classes were taking control of political life.

Finally, the Commune attacked the spiritual weight of the Church and proclaimed the separation of Church and State, long before the radical laws of 1905 established France as a secular republic.

Throughout its 72 days of existence, the Commune took measures determined by the interests of the laboring population. "The people only get what they take for themselves," said one of the Commune's revolutionary leaders, Louise Michel. The government that the Parisian workers had chosen for themselves, controlled by the workers in arms, made choices and voted texts that expressed its class character.

The Commune defended tenants from their landlords and ordered a moratorium on rents, which were impossible to pay after months of war.

Empty homes were commandeered for the homeless. The Commune prohibited workplace fines, which had put a strain on workers' wages, and prohibited night work for bakers. Finally, on April 16, the Commune decided that shops and workshops abandoned by their owners should be taken over and run for the benefit of the whole community, set up as cooperatives directly run by their workers. During the Commune, the need of the laboring classes to survive gave birth to the first beginnings of collectivization in the means of production.

As Trotsky wrote about another period, "revolution is above all the violent eruption of the masses into the domain where they govern their own destinies."

During the Commune, as in all revolutionary periods, the workers' consciousness evolved rapidly. And the most revolutionary ideas and initiatives came from the very depths of the population itself.

Socialist aspirations were expressed everywhere, as in this statement issued by a women's meeting: "For us, the first class wound that needs to be closed is that of the bosses who exploit the worker and get rich from his sweat. No more bosses who consider the worker as a machine for production! Let the workers join forces, let their work be for the common good and they will be happy. Another vice of this society is that the rich do nothing but spend their time drinking and having fun, taking no care.

"They must be rooted out, as must be the priests and nuns. We cannot be happy until there are no more bosses, no more rich, no more clergy."

"Suppress The Exploitation Of Man By Man, The Last Remaining Form Of Slavery"

Those same aspirations were expressed in the following statement, April 23, 1871, from the mechanics and metallurgists union:

"Considering that equality must not be a hollow expression within the Commune, which was, itself, the outcome of the revolution of March 18;

"and considering that our economic emancipation is the aim of the struggle, so valiantly carried out and that we wish to continue until the last royalist cleric is extinguished;

"and considering that this can be achieved only by the workers banding together, which alone will change our condition from hirelings to associates;

"We declare that we give our delegates the following general instructions: suppress the exploitation of man by man, the last remaining form of slavery; organize work through solidarity associations, with collective and inalienable capital."

Borne by the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses, their initiatives and their aspirations, the Commune found itself at the very forefront of progressive ideas.

Religious obscurantism was fought, religious convents closed and the atrocities committed within them publicly denounced.

Discussions were organized to devise a new form of education for the masses that would be free, public and secular. The Commune committed itself to developing vocational training for girls and, moreover, women took an active part in the revolution.

The Commune gave official recognition to civil unions, providing the first legal recognition to families formed outside marriage (unmarried partners, so-called "illegitimate" children). Finally, the Commune banned prostitution, considering it a form of "commercial exploitation of human beings by other human beings." Ideas for setting up children's nurseries and communal eating facilities emerged.

The Commune reopened libraries, museums and theaters and gave the laboring classes the opportunity, for the first time, to attend concerts.

Foreigners were recognized by the Commune as members of the great international family of workers. What could be more significant in this respect than the fact that the Commune gave supreme command of its army to a Polish non-commissioned officer?

The Paris Commune perished in May 1871 under the fire of Thiers' troops, allied with those of Bismarck. "The international of the ruling classes" had gone into action to crush this first attempt at workers' emancipation.

Between 20,000 and 40,000 died in the repression. The massacre of the Communards, whose dead bodies lined the streets, did not stop until the danger of a cholera epidemic threatened. The violence of the repression reflected the level of the bourgeoisie's fear.

This Parisian working class revolution, even though it had been crushed, showed the way for future revolutions.

Lenin wrote of the Commune: "Not only was Marx enthusiastic about the heroism of the Communards.... Although the mass revolutionary movement did not achieve its aim, he regarded it as a historic experience of enormous importance, as a definite advance of the world proletarian revolution, as a practical step that was more important than hundreds of programs and arguments. Marx endeavored to analyze this experiment, to draw tactical lessons from it and re-examine his theory in the light of it."

From 1848 on, Marx and Engels asserted that, to emancipate itself, the proletariat had to become the ruling class and take over political power. But this remained a revolutionary prospect and not a concrete reality.

Of course, Marx and Engels had been able to draw the political lessons of past revolutions, particularly that of 1848: "Any attempt at revolution in France will have to involve the breaking up of the machineries of the bureaucracy and that of the army."

But it was the Paris Commune that showed for the first time how the working class could break up the bourgeois state machinery and forge its own state to achieve its own emancipation.

Later on, many socialist activists who claimed to be Marxist abandoned these ideas on the state. Lenin, to the contrary, took up the banner of the Paris Commune in his book, *State and Revolution*, written at the height of the 1917 revolution. He pushed Marx's analysis further and used the Commune as an example: "Thus, the Commune appeared to have replaced the broken State machine by instituting a democracy that was 'simply' more complete: suppression of the army, the possibility of electing and recalling all its officials, without exception. However, 'simply' implies a vast amount of work: the replacement of institutions by others that are completely different. This is a true case of 'transforming quantity into quality': carried out this way, as fully and as methodically as conceivable, democracy changes from being bourgeois to being proletarian: the State ('a special power designed to subdue a specific class') becomes something which is no longer truly a State."

The Paris Commune fed the experience of the international workers' movement for decades.

Its history constitutes the core of the training of all the revolutionaries of the 20th century. Revolutionaries, particularly the Bolsheviks, carefully studied this first form of a workers' state in history, and they drew all the political lessons from the experience of the Commune. For example, in a 1908 article entitled "Lessons of the Commune," Lenin analyzed what he called its mistakes. He explained that, by not expropriating the Bank of France, the Commune stopped half way in the social and economic fight against the capitalists and that this reinforced the bourgeoisie.

He also warned the proletariat against romantic illusions and drew all the conclusions from the violence of the Versailles repression: "The second mistake was excessive magnanimity on the part of the proletariat: instead of destroying its enemies it sought to exert moral influence on them; it underestimated the significance of direct military operations in civil war, and instead of launching a resolute offensive against Versailles that would have crowned its victory in Paris, it tarried and gave the Versailles government time to gather the dark forces and prepare for the blood-soaked week of May." Lenin added, however: "But despite all its mistakes the Commune was the greatest example of the great proletarian movement of the 19th century."

Lenin reasoned as a revolutionary and searched in the history and the experience of the proletariat for lessons that could help its victory in future battles.

In 1917, these analyses helped the Bolsheviks to take power with all the resolution that the Communards had lacked. Knowledge of the events of the Commune, of the fighting between it and the Versailles troops helped to lead the civil war in Russia to victory.

For its 140th anniversary, the Commune is the object of polite commentaries, even from the Social Democratic mayor of Paris.

The deceitful friends of the workers, past and present, can praise the Commune because it did not overcome, shedding hypocritical tears over its martyrs and its dead.

These people celebrate the workers only when they are defeated.

These same people hated the Russian workers of 1917 who, armed with the lessons of the Commune, defeated the bourgeoisie and did not let themselves be massacred.

The hopes and dreams of the Communards, as well as their mistakes and failures, are all part of the heritage of revolutionary communists – a heritage we must be proud of, that we should learn about, understand and pass on, in order to continue the fight against the capitalist order.

Every young person who joins the side of the working class and the ranks of the revolutionary movement should keep in mind the courage of well-known figures of the Commune – like Louise Michel, Leo Frankel and Eugene Varlin – but above all that of the thousands of anonymous workers who fought on the barricades for the emancipation of their class.

Just as today's young person in the revolutionary movement should recognize and understand the hatred of the bourgeoisie towards the Commune.

Without this knowledge, we will never be victorious.

The best tribute we can pay to the Communards, to the known as well as to the unknown fighters, is to learn about their struggles, to learn about their actions and their mistakes and to continue their fight.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

3 U.S. Soldiers Wounded By E. Afghan Blast

Mar 14, 2017 By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & Xinhua

KABUL -- Three U.S. soldiers were injured after an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) struck their vehicle in Afghanistan's eastern province of Nangarhar on Monday while they were returning to their base. The three soldiers sustained minor injuries and have been returned to duty.

Insurgents Slit Throats Of Three Afghan Generals

03/14/17 ToloNews

Insurgents slit the throats of at least three bed-ridden generals in their attack on Kabul's Sardar Mohammad Daud hospital last week.

One of the men who had his throat cut, was General Daud Askaryar, a competent General of the Ministry of Interior. He had been in the hospital for a month prior to the attack. The other two senior officers were generals of the Ministry of Defense.

Askaryar carried out many duties in the past 42 years of his services in military departments. He commanded the Herat border brigade and served in law management. He was head of the Nimroze province firefighting department and commander of the police academy and chief supply officer for interior ministry.

During the Babrak Karmal government, Askaryar was jailed and in the Mohammad Najibullah Ahmadzai presidency, he was sentenced to death, but was rescued.

Askaryar's sons who survived the attack on hospital said the first who fired on hospital personnel and patients in the fourth floor, was a doctor who used to check patients.

"A man in military uniform with doctor's white clothing over had a gun to his shoulder when he came to us. When the door of a room opened, he started firing on patients," said Mohammad Nasim Askaryar, son of General Askaryar.

"A big man come and fired on us and an girl of eight or nine years was killed," said Mozmel, Askaryar's son. Mozmel is suffered mentally after seeing the attack and says that images of the dead and injured people are still before his eyes and he cannot forget the scene. "They took us to a room where there was lots of blood, injured and killed people. It was a very bad situation," he added.

People rescued of the attack, said attackers were reporting to some other people about their killings.

"They were talking on phones in the Pashto language and were reporting that they had killed three or four people," Mohammad Nasim said.

Abdul Fatah has lost his brother and nephew in the attack and found his nephew's body one day after the attack. His nephew, along with five others, were killed by grenade inside the elevator. "They are not Muslim, they are not human. They are savages," he said.

The deadly attack has claimed lives of more than 50 people and has injured more than 100 others.

Former government officials and Afghanistan citizens have accuse the defense minister and chief of army staff of being directly involved in the attack.

MORE:

Afghan Officials Say At Least 50 Died In Attack On Hospital: "No Names Of The Victims Have Been Made Public By The Government, Further Fanning Speculation About A Higher Death Toll"

MARCH 15, 2017 By Rod Nordland and Jawad Sukhanyar, NEW YORK TIMES

KABUL — Afghan officials sharply increased the tally of the dead in an attack last week on a military hospital, saying Wednesday that at least 50 people, including patients and staff, were killed.

In addition, 24 people have been arrested in connection with the March 8 attack in Kabul, including Afghan generals, according to Lieutenant General Helaludin Helal, the country's deputy minister of defense for strategic and intelligence affairs. The arrests were for a variety of charges, including negligence, incompetence, and complicity, Helal said at a contentious news conference.

The news conference was called after Afghan reports and social media accounts suggested that the casualty toll was actually in the hundreds; that three hospitalized Afghan generals were among those killed by the attackers; and that the minister of defense, Abdullah Habibi, had personally signed the VIP vehicle pass that allowed the attackers to enter the heavily guarded hospital complex in a car packed with explosives and weapons.

The reports seemed to be fueled partly by contradictory government claims immediately after the attack that only two people had died, a number many officials stuck to even after personnel at the Ministry of Defense confirmed at least 31 people were dead.

Helal maintained that the news reports in general were distorted and incorrect, without getting into specifics. As the questioning grew heated, Helal abruptly left, leaving the defense ministry spokesman, Major General Dawlat Waziri, to take over.

Waziri confirmed that officials were investigating the possibility that the attack was carried out by insiders, but he did not directly address assertions that doctors working at the hospital were involved. He did not identify the generals who were arrested, how many generals were arrested, or what the charges were.

No names of the victims have been made public by the government, further fanning speculation about a higher death toll.

A retired general who is currently a member of Parliament, Nazifa Zaki, disputed the official figure. "I believe 200 people were martyred in the hospital. This is what I heard from eyewitnesses and those who went to the hospital and funerals of the martyred."

Truck Bomb Blows Up Government Troops

Mar 14, 2017 ByTHE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) -- A truck bomber struck a military checkpoint in Afghanistan on Friday, killing one soldier and wounding 10.

Mohammad Akbar Zadran, a district governor in the eastern Khost province, said the early morning truck bomb attack damaged nearby houses and a school. After the blast, two Taliban gunmen opened fire at the troops, triggering a shootout that left both militants dead, he said.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed the attack in a media statement.

More Resistance Action: Blast Destroys Telecom Firm Bus In Afghan Capital; Other Attacks Kill Police



Blast In Kabul, Afghanistan March 13, 2017. REUTERS/Mohammad Ismail

Mar 13, 2017 Reuters & Mar 14, 2017 Reuters & Khaama Press

An explosion in the center of the Afghan capital Kabul destroyed a bus carrying employees of one of the country's biggest telecoms firms on Monday.

According to the security officials, a woman was killed and at least nineteen others including four women were wounded.

Security forces surrounded the smoking remains of the bus, which appeared to be completely burned out.

A security official said earlier the blast was caused by a bomber on foot, but Sediqqi said it appeared to have been caused by a roadside bomb.

The explosion, as people were leaving work in a well-to-do area of the city, came less than a week after dozens of people were killed and wounded in an attack on the country's largest military hospital by gunmen dressed in medical uniforms.

On Monday, two Afghan policemen were shot and killed on the outskirts of the capital while warming themselves around a fire on Monday, said Basir Mujahid, spokesman for the Kabul police chief.

The attackers fled, and it was not immediately clear who was responsible, he said.

At least two policemen were shot dead by insurgents in Kabul city late on Monday evening, security officials said Tuesday.

The incident took place in the vicinity of the 8th police district of the city insurgents opened fire on the policemen who were busy conducting search operation in the area.

Kabul police chief Hasan Shah Frogh confirmed that the two policemen were shot dead in Bani Esar area.

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

Militants In Somali Capital Attack Hotel Used By Government Officials And Military Base



Car bomb attack in Mogadishu, Somalia, March 13, 2017.

Somali militant group al-Shabab has claimed responsibility for two car bomb blasts Monday in Mogadishu that killed six people.

Witnesses say the first bomb went off outside the Wehliye Hotel, an establishment on the busy Maka-al-Mukarama Road often used by government officials, businessmen and guests from the diaspora.

"The wicked terrorist guys parked a car in front of the hotel and detonated At least five people were killed and more than that number injured," said Colonel Mohamed Dahir, a senior Mogadishu police official.

After the blast, government security forces cordoned off the area. Six people injured in the blast were admitted to the city's Medina hospital, according to VOA reporters on the scene.

The second explosion targeted a military base in the Somali capital and killed one person.

Al-Shabab said on its official radio station that the bombings killed dozens of government staffers.

In a statement, new Prime Minister Hassan Ali Khaire condemned the explosions and vowed that his government will defeat "the terrorists." "I promise that we will pull out all the stops to face those who are always thirsty for the blood of the innocent people with iron first," he said.

POLICE WAR REPORTS

Police Officer Remains On Duty After Beating Unarmed Man And Aiming Hand Gun At Witness: "The Officer Began Striking The Suspect With His Metal Flashlight Despite The Fact That The

Unarmed Man Made No Attempt To Fight Back”

“Instead Of Stopping Their Fellow Officer From Beating A Man On The Ground, Backup Units Immediately Began Threatening And Intimidating Witnesses”

“With The Suspect Now Restrained By Two Officers, The Tattooed Officer Continued Striking The Man With His Flashlight”

March 14, 2017 By Andrew Emmett, NationofChange

Captured on cell phone video aiming his gun at bystanders while repeatedly beating an unarmed man who had already surrendered, the California police officer accused of using excessive force remains on patrol duty.

Instead of stopping their fellow officer from beating a man on the ground, backup units immediately began threatening and intimidating witnesses.

Around 1 p.m. on Friday, Vallejo police responded to a 911 call concerning a man acting erratically and threatening a gas station attendant after his credit card declined several times. According to witnesses, the unidentified man attempted to run away after police arrived at the scene.

Recording the incident on a cell phone, a bystander caught footage of a tattooed police officer chasing an unarmed man into the middle of the street. Upon reaching the median, the suspect abruptly sat down and appeared to surrender.

After tackling the suspect, the unnamed officer straddled his body while repeatedly punching him in the face and throwing elbows at his head.

Flailing his arms in an attempt to protect his skull, the mentally unstable suspect screamed, “Police ain’t real! You’re not real. I am God!”

As backup units arrived, the officer began striking the suspect with his metal flashlight despite the fact that the unarmed man made no attempt to fight back.

With the suspect now restrained by two officers, the tattooed officer continued striking the man with his flashlight.

“Why you still hitting him?” a witness off-camera asked the cop.

“Hey! Fuck off!” the tattooed officer responded. “Go the other way.”

When the bystander refused to leave, the cop suddenly pulled his gun out of his holster and aimed it at him.

The officer immediately placed his firearm back in the holster after the witness yelled, “Shoot me!”

With more backup units arriving, the tattooed officer focused his attention back to the suspect and started beating him with the flashlight again.

Although the crowd of witnesses continued accusing the officer of brutality and excessive force, none of the other officers listened to their pleas.

Instead, the officers pushed the bystanders and threatened them with batons.

“No need to brutally beat this kid,” one of the witnesses told KPIX 5. “The kid surrendered. The cop, on the other hand, came up right behind him and he was tired, too. But he immediately dove on the kid and started wailing on him. C’mon now, that ain’t policing.”

According to witnesses, the tattooed officer had been chasing the unarmed suspect for several minutes before the video started.

Although it remains against official policy, many law enforcement officers share an unspoken rule that if they are forced to chase a suspect, then that suspect must receive a beating even after surrendering.

“Just like anyone else officers are innocent until proven guilty,” Vallejo PD Lt. Jeff Bassett wrote in a recent statement. “Violence is always ugly but police officers are exposed to violent situations every day and they are required to overcome that violence not just match it. We will investigate this matter and will take the appropriate action if any policy or law has been broken.”

While Internal Affairs reviews the arrest, the tattooed officer remains on active duty according to the department. The unidentified suspect was arrested under suspicion of being under the influence and for resisting arrest.

“I understand the officer needed to try to keep the people from getting close to him,” former Oakland Police Chief Howard Jordan told KPIX 5 after watching the cell phone video. “I don’t necessarily agree that’s the best use of force. It does look bad. It does appear inappropriate.”

U.S. Customs & Border Protection Scumbags Place Man In Chokehold To Seize His Cellphone: “Businessmen, Couples, Senior Citizens, And Families With Young Kids, Questioned, Searched, And Detained For Hours”

14 March 17 By Cynthia McFadden, E.D. Cauchi, William M. Arkin and Kevin Monahan, NBC News

When Buffalo, New York couple Akram Shibly and Kelly McCormick returned to the U.S. from a trip to Toronto on Jan. 1, 2017, U.S. Customs & Border Protection officers held them for two hours, took their cellphones and demanded their passwords.

"It just felt like a gross violation of our rights," said Shibly, a 23-year-old filmmaker born and raised in New York. But he and McCormick complied, and their phones were searched.

Three days later, they returned from another trip to Canada and were stopped again by CBP.

"One of the officers calls out to me and says, 'Hey, give me your phone,'" recalled Shibly. "And I said, 'No, because I already went through this.'"

The officer asked a second time..

Within seconds, he was surrounded: one man held his legs, another squeezed his throat from behind. A third reached into his pocket, pulling out his phone.

McCormick watched her boyfriend's face turn red as the officer's chokehold tightened.

Then they asked McCormick for her phone.

"I was not about to get tackled," she said. She handed it over.

Shibly and McCormick's experience is not unique. In 25 cases examined by NBC News, American citizens said that CBP officers at airports and border crossings demanded that they hand over their phones and their passwords, or unlock them.

The travelers came from across the nation, and were both naturalized citizens and people born and raised on American soil.

They traveled by plane and by car at different times through different states.

Businessmen, couples, senior citizens, and families with young kids, questioned, searched, and detained for hours when they tried to enter or leave the U.S.

None were on terror watchlists. One had a speeding ticket. Some were asked about their religion and their ethnic origins, and had the validity of their U.S. citizenship questioned.

What most of them have in common — 23 of the 25 — is that they are Muslim, like Shibly, whose parents are from Syria.

Data provided by the Department of Homeland Security shows that searches of cellphones by border agents has exploded, growing fivefold in just one year, from fewer than 5,000 in 2015 to nearly 25,000 in 2016.

According to DHS officials, 2017 will be a blockbuster year. Five-thousand devices were searched in February alone, more than in all of 2015.

"That's shocking," said Mary Ellen Callahan, former chief privacy officer at the Department of Homeland Security. She wrote the rules and restrictions on how CBP should conduct electronic searches back in 2009. "That was clearly a conscious strategy, that's not happenstance."

"This really puts at risk both the security and liberty of the American people," said Senator Ron Wyden, D-Oregon. "Law abiding Americans are being caught up in this digital dragnet."

"This is just going to grow and grow and grow," said Senator Wyden. "There's tremendous potential for abuse here."

What CBP agents call "detaining" cellphones didn't start after Donald Trump's election. The practice began a decade ago, late in the George W. Bush administration, but was highly focused on specific individuals.

The more aggressive tactics of the past two years, two senior intelligence officials told NBC News, were sparked by a string of domestic incidents in 2015 and 2016 in which the watch list system and the FBI failed to stop American citizens from conducting attacks. The searches also reflect new abilities to extract contact lists, travel patterns and other data from phones very quickly.

"We See Individual Officers And Perhaps Supervisors As Well Pushing Those Limits, Exceeding Their Authority And Violating People's Rights."

DHS has published more than two dozen reports detailing its extensive technological capability to forensically extract data from mobile devices, regardless of password protection on most Apple and Android phones. The reports document its proven ability to access deleted call logs, videos, photos, and emails to name a few, in addition to the Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram apps..

But the officials caution that rhetoric about a Muslim registry and ban during the presidential campaign also seems to have emboldened federal agents to act more forcefully.

"The shackles are off," said Hugh Handeyside, a staff attorney with the ACLU's National Security Project. "We see individual officers and perhaps supervisors as well pushing those limits, exceeding their authority and violating people's rights."

And multiple sources told NBC News that law enforcement and the Intelligence Community are exploiting a loophole to collect intelligence.

Under the Fourth Amendment, law enforcement needs at least reasonable suspicion if they want to search people or their possessions within the United States. But not at border crossings, and not at airport terminals.

"The Fourth Amendment, even for U.S. citizens, doesn't apply at the border," said Callahan. "That's under case law that goes back 150 years."

The ACLU's Handeyside noted that while the Fourth Amendment's warrant requirement doesn't apply at the border, its "general reasonableness" requirement still does, and is supposed to protect against unreasonable searches and seizures. "That may seem nuanced, but it's a critical distinction, said Handeyside. "We don't surrender our constitutional rights at the border."

Customs and Border officers can search travelers without any level of suspicion. They have the legal authority to go through any object crossing the border within 100 miles, including smartphones and laptops. They have the right to take devices away from travelers for five days without providing justification. In the absence of probable cause, however, they have to give the devices back.

CBP also searches people on behalf of other federal law enforcement agencies, sending its findings back to partners in the DEA, FBI, Treasury and the National Counterterrorism Center, among others.

Callahan thinks that CBP's spike in searches means it is exploiting the loophole "in order to get information they otherwise might not have been able to."

On January 31, an engineer from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory was pulled into additional screening upon his return to the U.S. after a two-week vacation in Chile. Despite being cleared by the Global Entry program, Sidd Bikkannavar received an "X" on his customs form. He is not Muslim, and he is not from any of the seven countries named in President Trump's original "travel ban" executive order. Half his family comes from India but he was born and raised in California.

Bikkannavar was brought into a closed room and told to hand over his phone and passcode. He paid particular notice to the form CBP handed him which explained it had the right to copy the contents of the phone, and that the penalty for refusal was "detention."

"I didn't know if that meant detention of the phone or me and I didn't want to find out," said Bikkannavar. He tried to refuse but the officer repeatedly demanded the PIN. Eventually he acquiesced.

"Once they had that, they had everything," Bikkannavar said. That access allowed CBP officers to review the backend of his social media accounts, work emails, call and text history, photos and other apps.

He had expected security might physically search any travelers for potential weapons but accessing his digital data felt different. "Your whole digital life is on your phone."

The officers disappeared with his phone and PIN. They returned 30 minutes later and let him go home.

CBP also regularly searches people leaving the country.

On February 9, Haisam Elsharkawi was stopped by security while trying to board his flight out of Los Angeles International Airport. He said that six Customs officers told him he was randomly selected. They demanded access to his phone and when he refused, Elsharkawi said they handcuffed him, locked him in the airport's lower level and asked questions including how he became a citizen. Elsharkawi thought he knew his rights and demanded access to legal counsel.

"They said if I need a lawyer, then I must be guilty of something," said Elsharkawi, and Egyptian-born Muslim and naturalized U.S. citizen. After four hours of questioning in detention, he unlocked his smartphone and, after a search, was eventually released. Elsharkawi said he intends to sue the Department of Homeland Security.

The current policy has not been updated since 2009. Jayson Ahern, who served in CBP under both Bush and Obama, signed off on the current policy. He said the electronic searches are supposed to be based on specific, articulable facts that raise security concerns. They are not meant to be random or routine or applied liberally to border crossers. "That's reckless and that's how you would lose the authority, never mind the policy."

The Customs & Border Patrol policy manual says that electronic devices fall under the same extended search doctrine that allows them to scan bags in the typical security line.

"As the threat landscape changes, so does CBP," a spokesperson told NBC News.

Since the policy was written in 2009, legal advocates argue, several court cases have set new precedents that could make some CBP electronic searches illegal.

Several former DHS officials pointed to a 2014 Supreme Court ruling in *Riley v California* that determined law enforcement needed a warrant to search electronic devices when a person is being arrested. The court ruled unanimously, and Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the opinion.

"Modern cellphones are not just another technological convenience. With all they contain and all they may reveal, they hold for many Americans 'the privacies of life,'" wrote Roberts. "The fact that technology now allows an individual to carry such information in

his hand does not make the information any less worthy of the protection for which the Founders fought."

Because that case happened outside of the border context, however, CBP lawyers have repeatedly asserted in court that the ruling does not apply to border searches.

For now a Department of Justice internal bulletin has instructed that, unless border officers have a search warrant, they need to take protective measures to limit intrusions, and make sure their searches do not access travelers' digital cloud data. The 'cloud' is all content not directly stored on a device, which includes anything requiring internet to access, like email and social media.

Former DHS officials who helped design and implement the search policy said they agreed with that guidance.

On February 20, Sen. Wyden wrote to DHS Secretary John Kelly demanding details on electronic search-practices used on U.S. citizens, and referred to the extent of electronic searches as government "overreach". As of publication, he had yet to receive an answer.

Now Sen. Wyden says that as early as next week he plans to propose a bill that would require CBP to at least obtain a warrant to search electronics of U.S. citizens, and explicitly prevent officers from demanding passwords.

"The old rules ... seem to be on the way to being tossed in the garbage can," said Senator Wyden. "I think it is time to update the law."

Asked about the Shibly case, a CBP spokesperson declined to comment, but said the Homeland Security Inspector General is investigating. The spokesperson said the agency can't comment on open investigations or particular travelers, but that it "firmly denies any accusations of racially profiling travelers based on nationality, race, sex, religion, faith, or spiritual beliefs."

Explaining the sharp increase in electronic searches, a department spokesperson told NBC News: "CBP has adapted and adjusted to align with current threat information, which is based on intelligence." A spokesman also noted that searches of citizens leaving the U.S. protect against the theft of American industrial and national security secrets.

After repeated communications, the Department of Homeland Security never responded to NBC News' requests for comments. Nonetheless, the Homeland Security Inspector General is currently auditing CBP's electronic search practices.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) also has filed two dozen complaints against CBP this year for issues profiling Muslim Americans. CAIR and the Electronic Frontier Foundation are considering legal action against the government for what they consider to be unconstitutional searches at the border.

MILITARY NEWS

Stupid Bureaucracy Denies Financial Help To Soldier Severely Injured In Afghanistan: “I Couldn’t Walk Away From The Helicopter. Today, I Can’t Walk Without The Help Of Canes” “I Was An Army Man Through And Through” “But The Army Says There’s No Proof”

March 11, 2017 By: Leo Shane III, Military Times [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — When Sgt. 1st Class Cameron Corder broke his back in a helicopter accident three years ago, he wasn’t thinking about what paperwork he needed to file to properly document the crippling pain.

“It’s an ultimate insult,” the 34-year-old former soldier said. “I couldn’t walk away from the helicopter. Today, I can’t walk without the help of canes. I can’t get myself in and out of bed. But the Army says there’s no proof anything happened.”

Technically, the Army has acknowledged that something happened to Corder, who was serving as a medic in Afghanistan in December 2013 when he was quickly medically evacuated from the war zone because of back problems.

He has undergone numerous surgeries and procedures since, all covered as service-connected injuries.

But because of a seemingly minor paperwork mistake hours after Corder’s accident, the service has refused to pay out \$100,000 from a Traumatic Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance policy, claiming there wasn’t a single event responsible for the soldier’s injuries.

That’s left the Michigan native and his wife, Bethany — now a full-time caregiver to Corder — scrambling to cover bills and expenses resulting from the injury, and wondering why military bureaucracy is fighting so hard against them.

“This whole situation has just been devastating,” he said. “I was an Army man through and through. But once I got involved in this, I just wanted to get out as fast as possible.”

Advocates for Corder say his ordeal could be a case study in how red tape and inflexible rules can hurt families, and raises unsettling questions about how the military expects wounded troops to handle their own post-injury needs.

In a letter to Army officials, Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Mich., called the situation “a clear case of mid-level bureaucrats misapplying policy and intent at the expense of a wounded warrior.”

Kildee has petitioned a host of military officials over the last few years, and brought Corder to Capitol Hill as a special guest to big events to highlight his fight. So far, it hasn’t changed the Army’s decision.

“It has been frustrating, that’s for sure,” the congressman said. “Cameron represents the best this country has to offer. Never did I imagine how much difficulty we’d face in getting him basic support.”

Corder was on a routine medical mission when his accident occurred. He was treating a wounded Marine injured in a bomb blast when the man -- in a state of shock -- became violent and tackled Corder.

The pair fell to the helicopter floor, with Corder landing awkwardly on metal medical kit. “Immediate shooting pain went through my low back and down both of my legs.”

Other crew members wrestled the agitated Marine away, but Corder could barely move by the time they landed back at base. He needed help walking to the base medical facility for treatment.

There, other Army medical specialists on call asked about his injury and whether he had any existing medical conditions. Corder noted that he had experienced minor back pain a few months earlier, after injuring himself lifting a patient, but said the helicopter injury was much more severe.

Over the next few days, as Corder’s condition deteriorated and he was sent back to Germany for emergency surgeries, reports of the helicopter accident went missing from his medical files. Army officials listed his injury as “a history of lower back pain” instead of a single event.

That meant that Corder’s immediate medical bills were covered by the Army, but his claim a few months later for a payout Traumatic Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance was rejected.

“The documentation provided for your event ... does not indicate you suffered a loss resulting from a qualifying traumatic event,” the Army’s rejection letter stated.

“There is nothing in your 800+ page record which indicates or points to an event involving an altercation with a patient.”

Over the last three years, Corder has submitted multiple statements from his fellow flight crew members confirming the accident, but the Army has yet to recognize them.

Service officials insist that despite numerous filings from Corder and Kildee, they only recently received a “formal” appeal of the 2014 TSGLI decision, and are still sorting through his documentation for the latest process.

Kildee called the drawn-out process infuriating.

“The Army ought to be finding every way it can to help someone like this,” he said. “If there was a mistake, it’s OK to admit it. Let’s just get him what he needs.”

Meanwhile, Corder said his family has gone from a “middle-class” lifestyle before his injury to financial struggles afterwards, mostly because of the loss of his wife’s income. His 10-year-old daughter had to choose between two after-school activities this year because the family doesn’t have the time or money to get her to both.

“That (TGSLI) money would be huge for us,” he said. “It’s an opportunity to pay off some of our loans and debt, and a lot of that came when my wife was traveling to see me after surgery. It would be a chance to put money aside to help pay for the kids’ college.”

“It would just help to dig ourselves out of the hole we’re in.”

VA Plans To Help ‘Bad Paper’ Veterans Don’t Go Far Enough: “Combat Veterans Diagnosed With Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Are 11 Times More Likely To Get A Bad Paper Discharge”

“My Own Service Is Cheapened When I See Others’ Service So Easily Forgotten”

March 15, 2017 By: Bradford Adams, Military Times

Bradford Adams is a policy advocate and supervising staff attorney at Swords to Plowshares and has co-authored a report on bad paper discharges. He served in the Army and in Afghanistan as a civil affairs officer from 2002 to 2003.

A Capitol Hill conference room erupted in cheers March 7 when Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin announced that he would start providing mental health services to “bad paper” veterans – men and women who, typically for minor disciplinary problems and often as a result of mental health issues that started in service, have been denied access to most VA care.

This exclusion is happening to post-9/11 vets at a higher rate than for any prior generation. There has been a growing awareness in Congress, among veterans organizations and within the public that this isn't right. It was a big relief to hear the VA's new leader say that he got it, too.

Then the details came out. In a news release explaining the announcement, VA said it would be providing three services to bad paper veterans – all things the VA is already doing.

First, the VA's news release offers its Vet Centers, counselling locations for combat veterans and survivors of military rape, to bad paper veterans seeking treatment. These locations have been available to bad paper vets since the 1970s, and as helpful as they are, they don't provide psychiatric care, acute care or neurological care.

Second, the VA says bad paper vets will be able to “seek treatment at a VA emergency department” for health care concerns. If that means emergency room access, the VA already provides it to everyone, including nonveterans, as “humanitarian care.” Finally, the VA says it will offer its Veterans Crisis Line, the toll-free suicide hotline. Fortunately, it is not now VA policy for Crisis Line counselors to hang up on bad paper veterans calling for help.

Perhaps the VA has more in the works, but if this is the full extent of its new solution to veteran suicide, then it's nothing new at all. That would be a shame, because this is a problem crying out for bold action.

Bad paper veterans are twice as likely to commit suicide, in part because combat veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder are 11 times more likely to get a bad paper discharge, according to a study of Marines deployed from 2001 to 2007.

After a generation of official silence on this issue, it was heartening to hear the VA acknowledge that this crisis demands a serious response. That is a bold step.

But these veterans need services, not lip service. The VA must do more.

We know that VA health care works: The suicide rate for veterans enrolled in VA healthcare is decreasing, while the suicide rate for those outside VA care is increasing. We know that many veterans don't ask for help early on, when crisis can be avoided, so primary health care providers are essential for proper mental health treatment.

We know that thousands of bad paper veterans could be eligible for VA care and services if the VA promptly and properly handled their requests and applications.

And the VA can do more. Much more.

It can provide health care, including primary care, on at least a temporary basis while making its eligibility decision. It can contract with community providers so that Vet Center patients can access psychiatric and neurobehavioral care. It can proactively make eligibility decisions so that veterans know whether they'll be able to access services, instead forcing them to wait until a crisis arrives and then filling out an application at an ER.

All this can be done now, under the VA's existing legal authority.

Swords to Plowshares, with the National Veterans Legal Services Program, the Harvard Law School Veterans Legal Clinic, and Latham & Watkins LLP, provided the VA with a Petition for Rulemaking that maps out its legal authorities and describes solutions available under current law. We need to make sure that the VA creates a comprehensive response, using everything in its arsenal. It isn't doing that yet.

There may be some people, including some veterans, who still think that these veterans don't deserve care when in crisis, don't deserve shelter when homeless, don't deserve support when they've been wounded in war.

I'm not one of those. I remember that every one of these veterans signed up for service at a time when most people in our country do not. I remember these veterans for their best day: the day when they mustered the commitment, grit, and personal responsibility to give selflessly.

I honor that commitment by not letting it be overshadowed by their worst day.

My own service is cheapened when I see others' service so easily forgotten. I am not honored to know that other veterans are left to wrestle their demons alone. The VA needs to take real action on behalf of these veterans. I applaud the secretary for committing to do so. I hope that his announcement was just the start.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



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

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

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

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

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

US Boots On The Ground In Syria

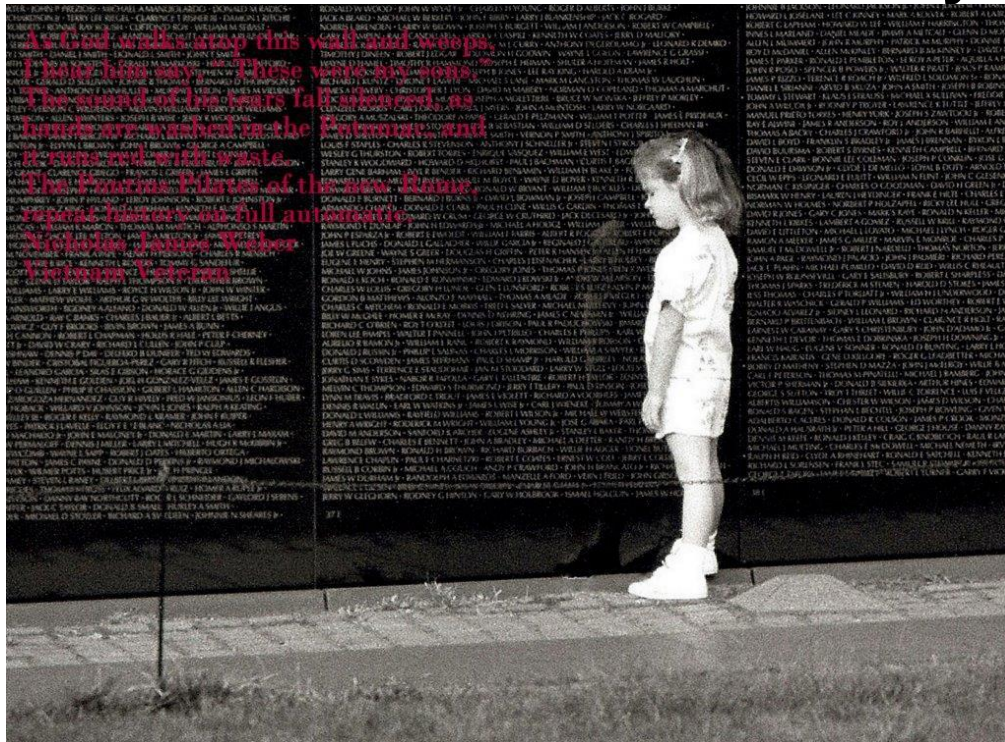


Photo By Mike Hastie. Army Medic Vietnam

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: March 10, 2017
Subject: US Boots On The Ground In Syria

U.S. Boots On The Ground In Syria

Little Girl at the Wall in Washington, D.C. 1986

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

“In 494 BCE, The People Of Rome Staged One Of The Most Remarkable And Imaginative Protests In World History”

“The Workers Were Not Simply Withdrawing Their Labor; They Were Withdrawing Themselves”



The Secession of the People to the Mons Sacer, engraving by B. Barloccini, 1849

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

Mar 16, 2017 Delanceyplace.com

Excerpt from *The Rise of Rome: The Making of the World's Greatest Empire*. Author: Anthony Everitt. Publisher: Random House Trade Paperbacks; Copyright 2012 by Anthony Everitt. Pages 90-94, 142-143

In 494 BCE, the people of Rome staged one of the most remarkable and imaginative protests in world history. Though this protest brought some reform, it underscored the seemingly never-ending struggle of the plebs against the major landowners and ruling elite:

"It was the strangest spectacle seen since the foundation of Rome. A long stream of families could be observed leaving the city in what looked like a general evacuation. They walked southward and climbed a sparsely populated hill, the Aventine, which stands across a valley from the Palatine, the site of Romulus's first settlement.

"They were, broadly speaking, the poor and the disadvantaged -- artisans and farmers, peasants and urban workers. They carried with them a few days' worth of food.

"On arrival they set up camp, building a stockade and a trench. There they stayed quietly, like a weaponless army, offering no provocation or violence. They waited, doing nothing.

"This was a mass protest, one of the most remarkable and imaginative in world history. It was like a modern general strike, but with an added dimension.

"The workers were not simply withdrawing their labor; they were withdrawing themselves...

"What, then, was their complaint? ...

"The poor were burdened with debt and arbitrary treatment by those in authority; they sought redress. Many had reached a point where the only thing they owned with which to repay their debts was themselves -- their labor, their bodies. In that case, they were able to enter into a system of debt bondage, known as *nexum*, literally an interlacing or binding together.

"In the presence of five witnesses, a lender weighed out the money or copper to be lent. The debtor could now settle what he owed. In return he handed himself over -- his person and his services (although he retained his civic rights). The lender recited a formula: 'For such and such a sum of money you are now *nexus*, my bondsman.' He then chained the debtor, to dramatize his side of the bargain.

"This brutal arrangement did not in itself attract disapproval, for it did provide a solution, however rough-and-ready, to extreme indebtedness. "What really aroused anger was the oppressive or unfair treatment of a bonded slave. The creditor-owner even had the right to put him to death, at least in theory.

“Livy tells the story of a victim, an old man, who suddenly appeared one day in the Forum. Pale and emaciated, he wore soiled and threadbare clothes. His hair and beard were unkempt. Altogether, he was a pitiable sight. A crowd gathered, and learned that he had once been a soldier who commanded a company and served his country with distinction. How had he come to this pass?

“He replied: While I was on service during the Sabine war, my crops were ruined by enemy raids, and my cottage was burnt. Everything I had was taken, including my cattle.

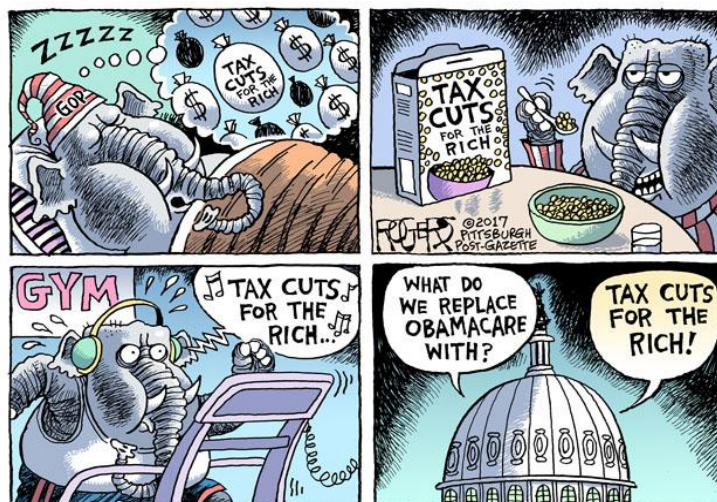
“Then, when I was least able to do so, I was expected to pay taxes, and the result was I fell into debt. Interest on the borrowed money increased my burden; I lost the land which my father and grandfather had owned before me, and then my other possessions. Ruin spread like an infection through all I had. Even my body wasn't exempt, for I was finally seized by my creditor and reduced to slavery -- no, worse, I was hauled away to prison and the torture chamber ...

"In 326, a scandal led to the reform of debt bondage, the nexum.

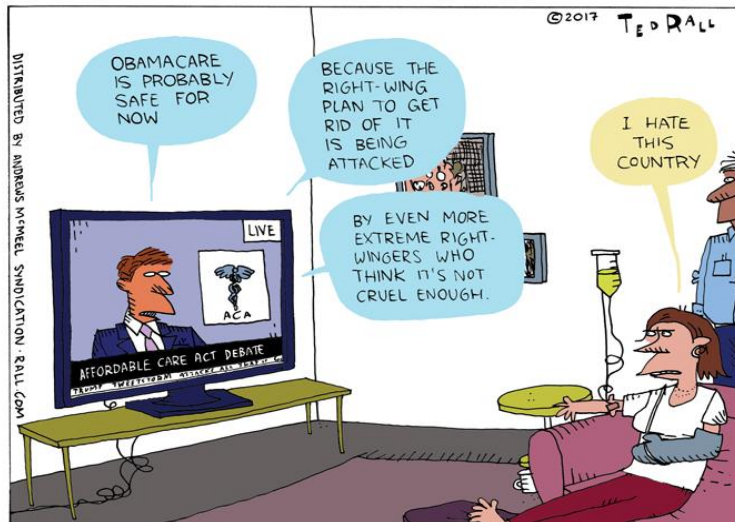
“An attractive youth sold himself into bondage to a creditor of his father. The creditor regarded the youth's charms as an additional bonus to sweeten the loan and tried to seduce his new acquisition. “Meeting resistance, he had the boy stripped naked and flogged. Bleeding from the lash, the boy rushed out into the street. An angry crowd gathered and marched on the Senate House for general redress.

"The consuls, taken aback, conceded the point. They won the People's approval of a law limiting the nexum to extreme cases, which, in addition, had to be adjudicated by a court. As a rule, to repay money lent him, a debtor's property could be seized, but not his person."

CLASS WAR REPORTS



DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



GOP Recommends Americans Set Aside Income From One Of Their Jobs To Pay For Healthcare Under New Bill

3.13.17 The Onion

WASHINGTON—In an effort to address concerns about the affordability of coverage, Republican congressional officials advised Americans Monday to set aside the income from one of their jobs to pay for healthcare costs under the newly introduced American Health Care Act.

“Under this bill, you would simply set up a separate savings account for the total earnings from one of your jobs, which will ensure that you can comfortably cover your healthcare expenses each month,” said House Speaker Paul Ryan, adding that the GOP’s proposed Affordable Care Act replacement would keep healthcare costs for the average American from exceeding the entire salary of one full-time job.

“If you budget things correctly, you’ll have plenty of money left over from your other job or jobs to spend on food, rent, and any other personal expenses. In some cases, healthcare will even be low-priced enough to afford using only the income from a part-time side job on the weekends.

“The important thing here is that this legislation will allow Americans—not the federal government—to decide for themselves what kind of healthcare they want and how many jobs they choose to have in order to pay for it.”

Ryan also recommended that in order to be prepared for the added costs of a sudden medical emergency, Americans should create a dedicated savings fund using the money from at least two of the mortgages on their homes.

YOUR INVITATION:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Military Resistance Newsletter, 459 Columbus Avenue, PMB#282, New York, N.Y. 10024 or email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

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