

## **Military Resistance 15E6**



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: "They left off all the oil companies and Haliburton."]

# Memorial Day

[From GI Special, May 22, 2008]

From: Dennis Serdel  
To: GI Special  
Sent: May 22, 2008 5:07 PM  
Subject: Memorial Day by Dennis

**By Dennis Serdel, Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade, purple heart, Veterans For Peace 50 Michigan, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, United Auto Workers GM Retiree, in Perry, Michigan**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Memorial Day

**Depression is crashing down on the Soldier  
from clouds in the air reflecting dead heroes**

he can't seem to shake anything off  
it has seeped into his body and brain  
like hounds on the loose chasing enemies  
inside himself that won't come out  
that can hardly be seen except for Americans  
who send him cards and packages that  
he doesn't open anymore because he doesn't know  
them or his family or himself or anybody anymore  
as the dust flies behind his Humvee waiting  
for their death, his death it doesn't  
matter anymore, nothing is important  
driving into his death he hopes because  
he can't take it anymore he needs to be rescued  
but helicopters never land  
until it is too late everybody dead  
except him or everybody is alive  
except him as he screams in the air of the desert  
but he is only screaming at himself  
as the needle goes in and the doctor  
tells him not to worry he will be with  
his fellow Soldiers in no time, no time at all  
but time has stopped there is no history  
nothing in the future except for now and dead heroes  
between nothingness and nothingness  
between half life and half death  
he no longer cares about going on living  
for what, this ugly world is just evil  
the way it takes people, squeezes happiness,  
feelings of love out of them, leaving empty cartridges  
on a highway in Baghdad motors running  
full speed ahead and as he cries to God but God is dead  
and the highway he has traveled is bloody  
red and black, black and red  
a game of dangerous  
his family doesn't know him anymore  
as he sits on the porch and stares with dead eyes  
waiting for someone to give him a gun again.

---

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Taliban Attacks Another Base In Kandahar:**

# **“Last Night’s Invasion Is The Latest In A String Of Assaults Against Afghan Military Bases And Security Outposts In Kandahar Over The Past Week”**

May 26, 2017 By Bill Roggio, Long War Journal & VOA News. Bill Roggio is a Senior Fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and the Editor of FDD’s Long War Journal

The Taliban launched another coordinated assault against Afghan military installations in the southern province of Kandahar today. At least one dozen Afghan soldiers are reported to have been involved in the fighting.

Security officials told TOLONews that 18 Afghan soldiers were killed, 16 were wounded, and four more were captured when Taliban fighters assaulted a base in the district of Shaw Wali Kot. Pajwhok Afghan News reported that “hundreds (of) militants were involved in the attack.”

In a statement released on its official propaganda website, Voice of Jihad, the Taliban confirmed it attacked a military base in Shah Wali Kot. Additionally, the group said it overran two of the three “defensive check posts” in the district, and claimed that 35 Afghan soldiers were killed and seven more were captured. The Taliban also claimed that it captured seven “APCs,” which likely are Humvees, and an assortment of weapons.

Last night’s invasion is the latest in a string of assaults against Afghan military bases and security outposts in Kandahar over the past week. In the largest strike, on May 22 in Shaw Wali Kot, the Taliban claimed it killed 35 soldiers and overran a base. Afghan officials confirmed the base was overrun and said 11 soldiers were killed.

Additionally, the Taliban claimed it killed 40 more Afghan security personnel in attacks in Khakrez, Maiwand, Shorabak, and another operation in Shah Wali Kot.

Late on Wednesday, insurgents staged a surprise assault on an army base in the province’s Maiwand district and killed 13 soldiers.

The Taliban is successfully using its safe havens in the remote areas of Kandahar, Helmand, Uruzgan, Ghazni, and Zabul to sustain its recent offensives in northern Kandahar.

**US and Afghan officials have downplayed the Taliban’s control of remote areas and have described the far-flung districts as “not important” and “less vital areas.”**

**The Taliban disagrees, and have stated the remote districts under its control are the lifeblood of its insurgency. “The Mujahideen have opened up operational lines between Kandahar, Helmand and Uruzgan provinces and can throw its brunt at a**

**time and place of its choosing,” the group stated after its fighters took control of Sangin in neighboring Helmand province in March.**

The Taliban is making inroads into Kandahar province.

As of March 26, the Taliban claimed it controls four of Kandahar’s 18 districts (Ghorak, Miyanashin, Registan, and Shorabak) and heavily contests five more (Arghastan, Khakrez, Maruf, Maiwand, and Shahwalikot). FDD’s Long War Journal assesses the Taliban’s claim of control to be credible. Of the remaining nine districts, the Taliban says it does “not control any specific area” but “only carryout guerilla attacks.”

**If the Taliban was exaggerating its control in Kandahar, it likely would claim to control at least some areas of districts such as Panjwai and Zhari. Taliban founder and its first emir, Mullah Omar, founded the Taliban in Panjwai, and Zhari is considered the spiritual home of the group.**

Kandahar is a strategic province for the Taliban, and is considered to be the birthplace of the group. The province borders Baluchistan, the Pakistani province that serves as the group’s safe haven as well as a prime recruitment center. Kandahar is also a key to the production and distribution of opium, a major source of the Taliban’s income.

#### **EARLIER REPORT:**

## **Many Regime Bases Attacked: “The Taliban Offensive In Kandahar Occurs As The Group Is Battling Afghan Forces In Multiple Provinces”**

May 25, 2017 By Bill Roggio, Long War Journal. [Excerpts] Bill Roggio is a Senior Fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies and the Editor of FDD’s Long War Journal

After stepping up attacks against Afghan security forces in the southern province of Kandahar over the past several days, the Taliban has now overrun a large military base. The fighting in Kandahar takes place as the Taliban remains on the offensive on several fronts throughout the country as part of Operation Mansouri.

The first major attack took place on May 22, when Taliban fighters stormed a military base in Shah Wali Kot district in northern Kandahar. Afghan officials claimed that 20 Taliban fighters and 11 soldiers were killed during the fighting. According to the Ministry of Defense, “the base fell to the Taliban after heavy clashes lasting a couple of hours,” TOLONews reported.

The Taliban, which said the base was located in Arghandab district, claimed they killed 35 Afghan soldiers, captured four others and seized “3 APCs” (likely Humvees), as well

as destroyed three more during the assault. Both the Afghan military and the Taliban are known to exaggerate the numbers of those killed in fighting.

That same day, the Taliban claimed it overran a border “check post” in the southern district of Shorabak and killed 15 Afghan troops. Additionally, the Taliban said it killed eight more Afghan troops after overtaking an outpost in the northern district of Khakrez. The group claimed it seized weapons and ammunition during the raids. Neither incident was reported in the Afghan press.

While the Taliban routinely inflate the number of casualties incurred, it rarely lies about its operations.

The Taliban offensive in Kandahar occurs as the group is battling Afghan forces in multiple provinces. Taliban fighters have assaulted Afghan forces in neighboring Helmand, where all of the districts are controlled or contested by the group, as well as Uruzgan, Zabul, Ghazni, Paktika, Kunar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Badghis, Faryab, and other provinces.

---

## **Insider Attack In Helmand Kills Eight Regime Soldiers**

23 May 2017 Jane’s Terrorism Watch Report’

Eight soldiers were shot dead by a police officer in a apparent insider attack targeting a security post in an unspecified location in Afghanistan’s Helmand province on 22 May, Afghan Islamic Press reported.

---

## **Afghan Army Suffer Heavy Casualties In Kandahar Taliban Attack**

May 23 2017 By Khaama Press

At least ten Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers lost their lives in an attack by the Taliban insurgents in southern Kandahar province of Afghanistan.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defense (MoD) General Dawlat Waziri said the attack was launched on Monday night around 11:50 pm local time in Shahwali Kot district.

Gen. Waziri further added that the Taliban insurgents attacked the Achekzai Suzani camp and some check posts located in the area. He said at least ten Afghan soldiers lost their lives in the attack and nine others were wounded.

---

# Taliban Offensive Results Into Closure Of Key Highway In North Of Afghanistan

May 24 2017 By Khaama Press

A coordinated attack by the Taliban insurgents resulted into the closure of a key highway in North of Afghanistan on Wednesday.

According to the security officials, scores of Taliban insurgents launched a coordinated attack on Baghlan-Mazar highway late on Tuesday night.

The officials further added that clashes are still underway as the highway has been closed and dozens of vehicles and passengers are stranded.

There are no reports available regarding the possible casualties of the security forces, civilians, and the insurgents as a result of the clashes so far. The anti-government armed militant groups have not commented regarding the report so far.

The Taliban-led insurgency has been rampant since the group announced its spring offensive last month and vowed to carry out more large scale attacks across the country.

---

## More Resistance Action: National Directorate of Security Attacked



[Graphic: flickr.com/photos]

26 May 2017 VOA News & Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

Afghan officials say 13 soldiers have been killed and eight others wounded in fighting with Taliban militants in the southern province of Kandahar.

At least six people were killed and two others were wounded in an attack close to an office of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) in Washir district in the southern Helmand province, a security source told TOLONews on Thursday.

The blast took place at around 1pm on Thursday afternoon and was carried out by a bomber, the source said.

According to the source, the victims are NDS service members.

Omar Zwak, spokesman for Helmand governor, confirmed the incident but did not comment on casualties.

On Tuesday, at least six policemen were killed in an insurgent attack in Helmand.

In addition, three other policemen were wounded in the attack.

The attack took place in Sangin district of the province after a number of insurgents attacked a police check post and clashed with security forces, provincial Police Chief Aqa Noor Kentozai said.

**On Sunday local officials said at least 20 local and national policemen were killed in clashes with Taliban insurgents in southern Zabol province.**

The clash occurred in Shahjoi district in Helmand on Saturday night after Taliban insurgents attacked the district and clashed with police, said officials.

At least seven check posts fell to the insurgents but by late Sunday security forces had regained control of all check posts.

---

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# **The US Lost Track Of \$1 Billion Worth Of Weapons Sent To Iraq: “The Transfers Included Tens Of Thousands Of Assault Rifles (Worth \$28 Million), Hundreds Of Mortar Rounds And Hundreds Of Humvee Armored Vehicles”**

26 May 17 By Michele Gorman, Newsweek

The U.S. Army failed to properly monitor more than \$1 billion worth of arms transfers in Iraq and Kuwait, according to a declassified government audit obtained by Amnesty International released Wednesday.

“This audit provides a worrying insight into the U.S. Army’s flawed—and potentially dangerous—system for controlling millions of dollars’ worth of arms transfers to a hugely volatile region,” Patrick Wilcken, Amnesty International’s Arms Control and Human Rights Researcher, said in a statement.

Amnesty obtained the documents through Freedom of Information law requests. The group’s research documents lax controls and record-keeping within the Iraqi chain of command, which has resulted in arms manufactured in the U.S. and other countries winding up in the hands of armed groups known to be committing war crimes and other atrocities, such as the Islamic State militant group (ISIS).

In response to the audit, the U.S. military has pledged to tighten its systems for tracking and monitoring future transfers to Iraq, according to Amnesty.

The U.S. Department of Defense audit from September 2016 shows that the DoD “did not have accurate, up-to-date records on the quantity and location” of equipment pouring into Iraq and Kuwait to supply the Iraqi Army in helping to degrade ISIS. The transfers included tens of thousands of assault rifles (worth \$28 million), hundreds of mortar rounds and hundreds of Humvee armored vehicles destined for use by the central Iraqi Army. In 2015, Congress devoted \$1.6 billion to combating the advance of ISIS.

A previous DoD audit, in 2015, pointed to even less rigorous stockpile monitoring procedures being enforced by the Iraqi armed forces.

In some cases, the Iraqi army was unaware of what was stored in its own warehouses, and some military equipment—which had never been inventoried—was stored out in the open in shipping containers.

Wilcken said it is vital that weapons and equipment be checked after delivery. “Any fragilities along the transfer chain,” he said, “greatly increase the risks of weapons going astray in a region where armed groups have wrought havoc and caused immense human suffering.”

**Meanwhile, the Pentagon has overbilled the U.S. military for fuel by almost \$6 billion over the past seven years, and then used the money to bolster underfunded or mismanaged defense programs, according to a report in The Washington Post on Saturday.**

Earlier, the federal Government Accountability Office criticized the U.S. for failing to account for thousands of rifles issued to Afghan security forces. The 2009 report said some weapons were documented to be in the hands of insurgents, including during a July 2008 battle in which nine Americans died.

---

## **POLICE WAR REPORTS**



# **Jail Ignored Mans Pleas For Medical Help Before He Died: “Somebody Was Supposed To Check On Sabbie Every 30 Minutes Overnight” “A Guard Said She Did And Then Later Admitted To Lying”**



A video shows guards attacking Sabbie. He was found dead in his cell the next day. A federal lawsuit has been filed by his family. (photo: Neat Upadhye)

26 May 17 By CBS News

The family of an Arkansas man is suing the jail he died in, claiming he was denied adequate medical care.

Michael Sabbie died in 2015, just days after he was locked up at the bi-state justice center. He had been arrested over a verbal dispute with his wife.

Sabbie's attorney gave CBS News videos from inside the jail that appear to show the state he was in about 12 hours before he was found dead.

Sabbie's family says the jail knew he had serious medical conditions and failed to get him proper help when he was clearly struggling, reports CBS News correspondent Omar Villafranca.

Surveillance video given to CBS News from Sabbie's attorney appears to show a security guard at the justice center throw Sabbie to the ground.

According to the lawsuit, Sabbie wasn't feeling well and had stopped to lean against the wall before attempting to enter the booking area to make a phone call.

A second video, taken by a jail employee, purportedly shows what happens after Sabbie is on the floor.

He's held down by six guards and pepper-sprayed, brought to a jail nurse for less than a minute, rinsed off and returned to his cell.

During the nine-and-a-half minute video, Sabbie says he can't breathe at least 19 times and asks for water.

The next morning, jail guards found the 35-year-old dead on his jail cell floor.

"He is a medically-vulnerable person. So he reported at intake that he had hypertension, diabetes, heart disease and asthma," said Erik Heipt, who is representing Sabbie's family in the lawsuit against the jail filed earlier this week.

The suit claims jail staff didn't give Sabbie his medications, ignored his labored breathing and used excessive force.

LaSalle Corrections runs this privately-owned jail – and 17 other facilities across four states. They said they do not make comments on pending litigation, but told a local news station last October that they comply with Texas Jail Commission standards.

Heipt says the family wants justice and answers for the father of four.

"They want to expose what happened in the hopes that this sort of thing doesn't happen to anyone else," Heipt said.

According to jail protocol, somebody was supposed to check on Sabbie every 30 minutes overnight. The suit claims that a guard said she did and then later admitted to lying.

---

## **U.S. Citizen Detained By Immigration Filth In San Bernardino: “She Was Met By Immigration Enforcement Agents, Handcuffed And Placed In The Back Of A Van”**

# “Here, They Talk About Rights ... In That Moment, I Realized, We Don’t Have Rights”



Guadalupe Plascencia (right) is consoled by her daughter Mahria Torres as she recounts her ordeal of being arrested by Ontario Police. (Gina Ferazzi / Los Angeles Times)

May 26, 2017 by Paloma Esquivel and James Queally, Los Angeles Times

Guadalupe Plascencia said she was alarmed when a San Bernardino County sheriff’s deputy asked her to sign papers related to her immigration status.

The 59-year-old hairdresser from San Bernardino had spent the night of March 29 in jail because of a decade-old bench warrant related to her alleged failure to appear as a witness in a court case. During her night in jail, Plascencia said a deputy asked her to sign documents acknowledging that officials with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement had inquired about her.

“Why?” Plascencia asked. “I’m an American citizen.”

Confused and scared, Plascencia did as she was asked, assuring herself that the entire ordeal was a mistake that would soon be cleared up.

But as she tried to leave the West Valley Detention Center in Rancho Cucamonga, Plascencia said she was met by immigration enforcement agents, handcuffed and placed in the back of a van. Plascencia would spend the rest of the day in ICE custody, fearful that she would be deported despite becoming an American citizen some 20 years ago, following an amnesty program initiated by President Ronald Reagan.

“I felt helpless, like I was no one,” she said in a recent interview. “Here, they talk about rights ... in that moment, I realized, we don’t have rights.”

Plascencia was eventually released after her daughter showed ICE agents her passport. But now she has taken the first step toward filing a lawsuit against the federal immigration agency and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department in a case that raises issues of how an American citizen wound up in the custody of immigration enforcement agents.

It's unclear how many hours Plascencia was detained by federal authorities, but she insists she repeatedly asserted her citizenship to deputies and ICE agents. She also says she presented a valid California driver's license when she was arrested.

Plascencia's case comes at a time when President Trump has pledged to increase detentions of undocumented immigrants and speed up deportations — and highlights the increasing challenge of ensuring that American citizens are not caught up in such actions.

On Thursday, the American Civil Liberties Union mailed notices of claim, the precursor to a lawsuit, to both agencies, said Adrienna Wong, the ACLU staff attorney who is representing Plascencia. The documents claim that Plascencia was discriminated against based on her ethnic origin, and seek monetary damages in excess of \$25,000.

San Bernardino Sheriff's Cpl. Ruben Perez said ICE issued a detainer request for Plascencia on March 30, the same day she was to be released from jail. The detainer request is an alert ICE sends to a local law enforcement agency when police have arrested someone immigration officials want to take into custody on suspicion of being in the country illegally.

Perez said sheriff's officials did not contact ICE or inquire as to Plascencia's immigration status, adding that to do so would be against department policy. Sheriff's department officials did submit her fingerprints to an electronic database accessible by federal and state local law enforcement agencies, which is standard law enforcement practice.

An ICE spokeswoman would not say if the agency issued a detainer request for Plascencia. In a statement, the agency said it was barred by law from discussing specifics about a case involving a U.S. citizen. "ICE would never knowingly take enforcement action against or detain an individual if there was evidence indicating the person was a U.S. citizen. Should such information come to light, the agency will take immediate action to address the matter," the statement read.

Wong contends that sheriff's deputies intentionally delayed Plascencia's release in order to allow ICE agents time to arrive and detain her.

Like many other departments in the state, the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department has insisted it does not honor ICE detainer requests because of questions over the constitutionality of that practice. San Bernardino Sheriff John McMahon, however, has said he wants to find ways to work more closely with immigration authorities while also adhering to laws.

"To be quite honest, those that are wanted by ICE, that are detained in our facilities, are dangerous criminals," he said in an interview posted to the department's YouTube page in February. "If we allow that inmate to walk out of our jail, and ICE isn't there to pick him

up, that inmate returns to the community. That could pose a danger for the public that we serve and try to protect.”

That level of cooperation between ICE and local law enforcement, however, can create situations like that faced by Plascencia, Wong said.

“Their cooperation with ICE is voluntary. This is why we generally say it’s a bad idea for law enforcement agencies to interact with federal immigration enforcement because they could be held liable” when illegal detentions occur, she said.

The arrest that sparked Plascencia’s detention by ICE is connected to a 2007 court case involving her son, Eric Mercado, that was ultimately dismissed, court records show.

It started when Plascencia visited the Ontario Police Department in March to recover a gun, which she legally owns, that had been seized after her daughter was involved in a car accident last year. As she waited in the police station, officers told her she was going to be arrested on a warrant. Court records indicate a bench warrant was issued for Plascencia after she failed to testify in the 2007 case.

Her daughter, Dulce Sepulveda, confirmed that Eric is her brother. Plascencia said she didn’t know she was required to testify in the case.

Plascencia said she was then transferred to the custody of the sheriff’s department, where she was repeatedly asked to sign forms relating to ICE.

Perez said the documents Plascencia signed were actually intended to notify her that ICE had inquired about her scheduled release date and issued an immigration detainer for her. Police are required to make inmates aware of such actions under California law, Perez said.

She was arrested by immigration agents as she left jail the next day. While in ICE custody, Plascencia said she feared she would be deported, and claims agents were verbally abusive to her.

“You’re no one, until your situation is cleared up,” Plascencia claims she was told by an ICE agent.

Sepulveda eventually arrived at the ICE office and presented Plascencia’s passport, prompting her release. In the notice of claim, the ACLU accused ICE of violating Plascencia’s rights by detaining her and ignoring clear evidence that she is a U.S. citizen.

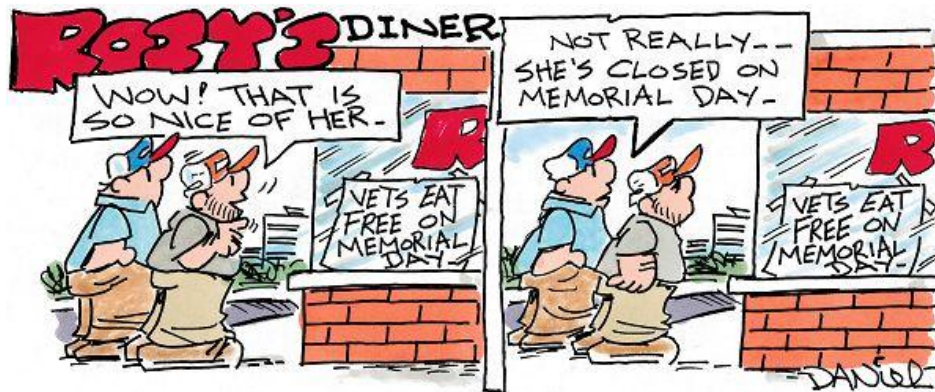
“ICE breached the duty of reasonable care it owed to Ms. Plascencia by arresting her and continuing to detain her when it had information about her citizenship,” the document reads.

Plascencia and her family say the experience has shaken their ideas about the protections they are entitled to as American citizens. Sepulveda said she is now afraid to leave the U.S., the country she was born in.

"I really thought they were going to try anything in their power to take her out of the country," Sepulveda said. "I didn't know who to talk to... I didn't know what to do."

---

## MILITARY NEWS



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in. She writes: "Doesn't matter what you DO as long as it LOOKS good."]

---

# **Wounded Warrior Project Lied About Spending Money On Wounded Warriors: "The Charity Had Said It Spent 80 Cents Of Each Donor Dollar On Programs For Veterans" "Wounded Warrior Project Was Spending Only About 68 Percent Of Donor Dollars On Programs For Veterans"**

May 25, 2017 by CHIP REID, JENNIFER JANISCH CBS NEWS

Last year, CBS News met Erick Millette, one of dozens of former employees who shared concerns about Wounded Warrior Project's spending and programs for veterans.

"You're using our injuries, our darkest days, our hardships, to make money. So you can have these big parties," Millette said in January last year.

Sen. Chuck Grassley led an inquiry into the allegations. "You want to make sure that people that contribute money, that it's used for what it was meant to be used for," he said.

The charity had said it spent 80 cents of each donor dollar on programs for veterans, but Grassley says that included donated media, advertisements and "educational" fundraising solicitations to reach that number.

And Grassley's nearly 500-page report to the Senate Judiciary and Finance Committees found Wounded Warrior Project was spending only about 68 percent of donor dollars on programs for veterans.

It also found the charity:

lacked "sufficient policies and procedures to manage the organization..."

**misled donors about more than \$65 million placed in a long-term trust that had not yet been spent on veterans.**

**spent "excessive amounts" of money on travel, as well as fundraising and staff events.**

CEO Steven Nardizzi was fired last year, along with nearly the entire executive suite of the charity.

"I think it's going to help in the long run to deliver exactly what the program ought to do for veterans," Grassley said.

In a statement, Wounded Warrior Project said it follows "accounting rules and IRS requirements" and has "made significant changes to ensure that we are focused on running the most efficient, effective organization possible."

It also says it updated its travel and expense policies and adjusted its programs and services to focus on mental health and long-term support.

## **MILITARY RESISTANCE BY EMAIL**

**If you wish to receive Military Resistance immediately and directly, send request to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org). There is no subscription charge. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



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

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

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

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

**Frederick Douglass, 1852**

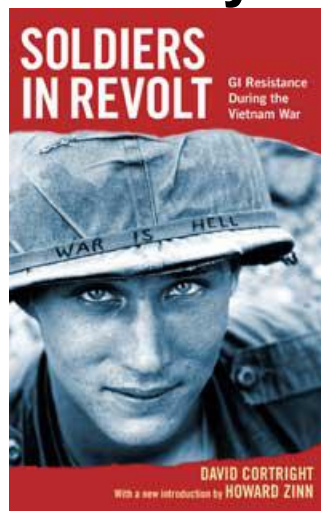
**The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point is to change it.**

**-- Karl Marx, "Theses on Feuerbach"**



# **“People Need Not Be Helpless Before The Power Of Illegitimate Authority”**

**“By Getting Together And Acting Upon  
Their Convictions People Can Change  
Society And, In Effect, Make Their Own  
History”**



From: SOLDIERS IN REVOLT: DAVID CORTRIGHT, Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1975. [Excerpts]

\*\*\*\*\*

**In the final analysis the stationing of American forces abroad serves not the national interest but the class interest of the corporate and political elite.**

**The maintenance of a massive, interventionist-oriented military establishment is based not on the nation's legitimate defense requirements but on the need to protect multinational investment and preserve regimes friendly to American capital.**

**Imperialism is at the heart of the national-security system and is the force fundamentally responsible for the counterrevolutionary, repressive aims of U.S. policy.**

**Only if we confront this reality and challenge it throughout society and within the ranks can we restore democratic control of the military.**

Of course nothing can be accomplished without citizen involvement and active political struggle.

During the Vietnam era enlisted servicemen created massive pressures for change, despite severe repression, and significantly altered the course of the war and subsequent military policy.

To sustain and strengthen this challenge we must continue to build political opposition to interventionism and support those who defy military service.

To this end the patriots who resisted the Indochina war should be granted universal and unconditional amnesty, as a sign of our agreement with their acts and as the first step toward restructuring the military and legitimatizing resistance to illegal war.

**The central lesson of the GI movement — and, I hope, of this book — is that people need not be helpless before the power of illegitimate authority, that by getting together and acting upon their convictions people can change society and, in effect, make their own history.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **This Book Free For Active Duty With APO/FPO/DPO Or Base Mail Address!**

**Civilians: \$16 including postage:  
Buy one for a friend/relative in the service.  
Checks, money orders payable to: The Military Project**

**Orders/requests to:  
Military Resistance Newsletter,  
459 Columbus Avenue, PMB#282,  
New York, N.Y. 10024**

### **MORE:**

## **A Film About How An Armed Forces Rebellion Stopped An Imperial War**

Hundreds have been distributed and we want to see that number grow into the thousands. The response has been tremendous.

**David Zeiger and Jade Fox  
Displaced Films**

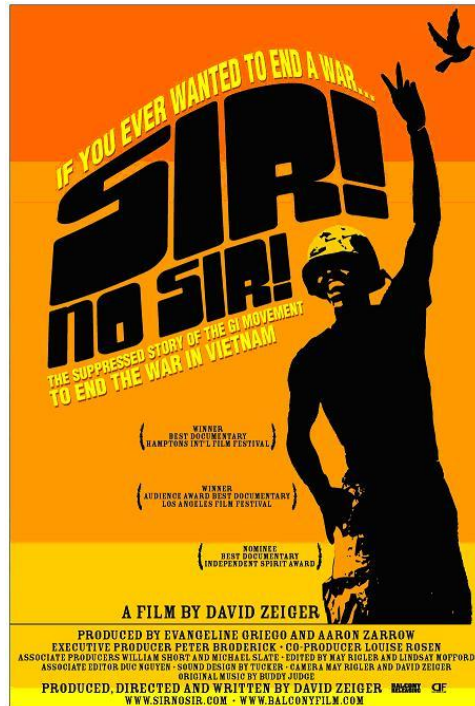
\*\*\*\*\*

**To Whom it May Concern:**

I just wanted to say thank you for this film, for raising my awareness, I never even knew some of these things happened.

I think this probably is one of the most important documentaries made about war resistance.

Thank you again,  
SGT Spencer Batchelder



**BUY SIR! NO SIR! FOR ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIERS  
NOW**

**HELP GET SIR! NO SIR!  
INTO THE HANDS THAT NEED IT MOST**

**The Sir! No Sir! DVD is on sale now, exclusively at  
<http://www.sirnosir.com/>**

**Also available is a Soundtrack CD (which includes the entire song from the FTA Show, "Soldier We Love You"), theatrical posters, tee shirts, and the DVD of "A Night of Ferocious Joy," a film about the first hip-hop antiwar concert against the "War on Terror."**

# **Veteran Big Game Hunter Killed By Elephant He Was Hunting; Another Eaten By Crocodile**

May 22, 2017 by Derek Hawkins, The Washington Post

Theunis Botha led his first guided hunting safari through South Africa's grasslands in 1989. A college student at the time, he used the money he received to help put himself through school.

Over the following 28 years, Botha expanded his college side-gig into a full-fledged business, setting up private hunting ranches in Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa and elsewhere, and drawing clients from around the world.

**He won a reputation as a sought-after specialist in leopard and lion hunting, and pioneered a new method of using hounds to track big game, according to his hunting company's website.**

On Friday, after countless treks into the African wilderness, the 51-year-old embarked on his final hunt.

Botha was leading a group of hunters in western Zimbabwe on Friday afternoon when they stumbled upon a breeding herd of elephants in Hwange National Park, the Telegraph reported.

Startled, three elephant cows charged the group. Botha opened fire, according to News24, but a fourth elephant rammed him from the side, lifting him with her trunk. One of his fellow hunters then fired a shot. The elephant collapsed on top of Botha, killing him, News24 reported.

Botha's body was taken to Hwange Colliery Hospital. His wife, Carike Botha, is expected to go to Zimbabwe on Monday to identify his body and bring his remains to South Africa for burial, according to News24. In addition to his wife, Botha is survived by five children.

Friends and clients of Botha's took to Facebook to express their condolences for the "world-class houndsman" over the weekend.

Others were unsympathetic, many leaving hateful, obscenity-laden comments on photos of Botha and his wife because of the work he did.

**Botha's death comes just weeks after one of his friends was killed by crocodiles during a hunting expedition in Zimbabwe. Scott Van Zyl, 44, was with a local tracker and a pack of hunting dogs when he disappeared in mid-April.**

**A week later, his remains were found in the carcass of a crocodile shot and killed by local authorities, the BBC reported.**

Theunis Botha Big Game Safaris started as a small operation in the early 1980s run by Botha's family, who settled near Kruger National Park in the sparsely populated northeastern region of South Africa, according to the company's website.

Botha rose to become a sergeant in the South African infantry and served in conflict with Angola, the website says, then enrolled at the University of Pretoria.

---

## ANNIVERSARIES

### May 29, 1932: Betrayed Veterans March On DC



The St. Louis contingent of the Bonus Expeditionary Force is pictured here as it starts for Washington, D.C., in May 1932.

Carl Bunin Peace History May 28-June 3

**In the depths of the Great Depression, the “Bonus Expeditionary Force,” a group of 1,000 World War I veterans seeking cash payments for their veterans’ bonus certificates, arrived in Washington, D.C.**

By mid-June, they had set up a massive “Hooverville,” a contemporary term for an encampment of the homeless.

One month later, other veteran groups made their way to the nation’s capital, swelling the Bonus Marchers to nearly 20,000 strong, most of them unemployed veterans in difficult financial straits.

In direct violation of the Posse Comitatus Act, they were violently disbanded by the Army in July.

---

**May 30, 1937:  
The Memorial Day Massacre:  
Chicago Police Cowards Murder  
Striking Steel Workers:  
“All But Four Of The Fifty-Four Gunshot  
Wounds Were To The Side Or Back”**



Carl Bunin Peace History May 28-June 3

1000 striking steel workers (and members of their families), on their way to picket at the Republic Steel plant in south Chicago where they were organizing a union, were stopped by the Chicago Police.

In what became known as the “Memorial Day Massacre,” police shot and killed 10 fleeing workers, wounded 30 more, and beat 55 so badly they required hospitalization.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Memorial Day Massacre of 1937**

uhigh.ilstu.edu [Excerpts]

The 1930s was a period of economic unrest for the United States. Following the prosperous “roaring twenties”, the Great Depression hit the general population hard. Many employees were fired and those who were not lost much of their former salary.

Then, in 1933, as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal, the National Recovery Act was passed. One of its most important concessions to laborers was the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing.

The number of strikes nationwide grew to the highest amount in American history.

When the National Recovery Act was declared unconstitutional in 1935, Congress was still sympathetic to the young labor unions that had been formed under it. They soon passed the Wagner Act, or National Labor Relations Act, to reassert the rights of the laborers.

By the 1930s the steel industry had survived much adversity, yet there were still changes to come.

The Committee for Industrial Organization, (CIO), was founded in November 1935.

Encouraged by the CIO, the steel industry became one of the first to begin organizing under the Wagner Act. Accordingly, on June 17, 1936 The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, (SWOC), was created. The industry itself did not accept this movement.

**Many companies began to stock up on tear-gas, firearms, and ammunition as well as, refining their espionage and police systems.**

After a long struggle for further organization and acceptance within the steel industry, the United States Steel Corporation, (the leading producer of steel, dubbed “Big Steel”), signed an agreement recognizing SWOC. This contract allowed for five dollar a day wages in addition to a 40-hour week with time-and-a-half for overtime. By May 1937, there were 110 firms under contract.

Still, some companies refused to sign. In response, SWOC called its first strike involving 25,000 workmen against Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation. Thirty-six hours later, the corporation agreed to a Labor Board election. The union won 17,028 to 7,207.

Despite this enormous victory, a combination of “Little Steel” companies including Bethlehem Steel, Republic Steel, Inland Steel, and Youngstown Sheet & Tube, refused to sign.

Their leaders had strong anti-union attitudes and felt that the U.S. steel decision to “surrender” to SWOC was a betrayal. Tom Girdler, chairman of the Board of Republic Steel, was one particularly influential anti-union spokesperson.

**The company anticipated a strike so they placed a stockpile of industrial munitions at various plants of Republic Steel.**

Then, on May 26, 1937, SWOC decided to strike three of the "Little Steel" companies: Republic, Youngstown Sheet & Tube, and Inland. Most of the plants ceased production during the strike; they were willing to wait it out because the steelworkers' union strike benefits were meager.

Picket lines were set up at these plants to prevent any attempt to reopen them.

However, Republic Steel remained defiant and refused to close all of its plants. They even housed non-union workers in the plant, so they could continue working without the hassle of picket lines outside.

One of these plants was the Republic Steel South Chicago Plant.

One half of this plant's 2,200 employees had joined the strike. When the walkout began on May 26, the police interfered in an attempt to prevent other non-committed workers from joining the cause. The SWOC organizers attempted to form a picket line in front of the gate.

Police Captain James Mooney, despite the fact that the picketers were peaceful, broke up the line and arrested 23 people who refused to move. The rest were forced to 117th Street, 2 blocks from the plant.

Because of this action, the police no longer played an impartial role in the strike. Instead, they were clearly supportive of Republic.

Strike headquarters were established in Sam's Place, at 113th and Green Bay Avenue.

Chicago mayor, Edward J. Kelley, announced in the Chicago Tribune that peaceful picketing would be permitted. In response to this article, the strikers attempted to establish pickets, but were turned away.

On the next day, at around 5:00 PM, another attempt was made to picket. The marchers marched from Sam's Place to 117th Street. There were a few policemen present, but the marchers continued west towards Burley Avenue.

Once the marchers reached Buffalo the police line had strengthened a great deal. The workers continued and fighting broke out. The police used clubs to fight the workers back. A few had drawn revolvers without orders and discharged them in the air. No one was killed, but there were several bloody heads.

May 28 was a quiet day, but the marchers were upset with police actions.

Nick Fontecchio, a Union leader, called for a mass meeting at Sam's Place the next day, Memorial Day Sunday. Captain Mooney received an anonymous report that on Sunday an attempt would be made to invade the plant to drive out the remaining non-union workers. He did not check the rumor, but proceeded to station 264 policemen on duty at the Republic Steel Mill.

**By 3:00 p.m. on May 30, 1937, a crowd of around 1500 strikers had gathered. It was a sunny, warm day with the temperature at around 88 degrees.**



**Many of the union members and supporters had brought along their wives and children to join in this almost festive gathering organized by SWOC leader Joe Hunt. Several speakers addressed various labor issues most importantly, the right to organize and picket.**

Some resolutions were approved to send to government officials concerning police conduct at the Republic plant. It was then moved to march to the plant and establish a mass picket.

When this was approved about 1000 people went into formation behind two American flags. Instead of marching south down Green Bay Avenue, they turned onto a dirt road across an open prairie chanting, "CIO, CIO!"

When the police, saw this they moved their position from 117th street between Green Bay and Burley Avenue to across the dirt road, just north of 117th on Burley.

The 200 police were in double file and watched the approaching marchers with their clubs drawn. The Republic mill had armed some of the officers with non-regulation clubs and tear gas.

The marchers met the police line and demanded that their rights to picket be recognized by the police letting them through.

They were "commanded in the name of the law to disperse", but the picketers persisted. This continued for several minutes. While marchers armed themselves with rocks and branches, foul language was passed between the two parties. Tension was mounting.

Recording all of this was cameraman Orland Lippert. Unfortunately, he was changing lenses at the start of the actual violence. This has caused some dispute as to which side initiated the fighting. The following account, determined at the hearings under Senator Robert LaFollette, is generally accepted.

Police were trying to prevent marchers from outflanking their line.

As some strikers began to retreat a stick flew from the back of the line towards the police. Instantaneously, tear gas bombs were thrown at the marchers. The next few moments were total chaos.

More objects were thrown at the police by the marchers.

**Acting without orders, several policemen in the front drew their revolvers and fired point blank at the marcher's ranks, many of whom were beginning to retreat.**

**The actual shooting only continued for fifteen seconds, but the violence did not end there. Using their clubs, the police beat anyone in their paths, including women and children.**

**During this time, arrests were also made. Patrol wagons were filled to twice the mandated capacity of 8 prisoners. The injured were not even taken directly to local hospitals.**

**As a result of this atrocity, four marchers were fatally shot and six were mortally wounded. Thirty others suffered gunshot wounds.**

Thirty-eight were hospitalized due to injuries from the beatings and still thirty more required other medical treatment.

**It is noteworthy that all but four of the fifty-four gunshot wounds were to the side or back and one victim was shot four times.**

There were minor police casualties with thirty-five reported injuries, (no gunshot wounds), but only three needed overnight hospital care.

After the riot, sympathetic strikers fervently protested the police brutality. On the other hand, the press, especially the Chicago Tribune, portrayed the marchers as communist conspirators who had essentially attacked the police and attempted to throw out non-union workers.

The LaFollette Committee investigated this tragedy and came to four conclusions.

First, the police had no right to limit the number of peaceful pickets and that the march was not aimed at freeing remaining plant workers.

Second, the police should have halted the march with limited violence, if this action is even justifiable.

Third, the force used by the police was excessive and the marcher's only methods of provocation were abusive language and throwing of isolated missiles.

Fourth, the police could have avoided the bloodshed.

**In addition to those killed in the Memorial Day Massacre, 6 other union members lost their lives in pickets of the "Little Steel" strike of 1937. In fact, the "Little Steel" strike is surpassed by few in the areas of viciousness, press distortion, suppression of rights, and police brutality.**

The strike was called off when the many hardships suffered began to demoralize union workers. However, in August of 1941, under legal pressure, the Little Steel companies agreed to cease the committing of unfair labor practices. A year later, they signed their first contract recognizing the new union, United Steelworkers of America.

**The massacre has been referred to as the "blackest day of modern labor history", but the sacrifices of these workers were not in vain. Little Steel had only delayed the inevitable march of unionism in America.**

---

**RECEIVED FROM READERS**

**“Maybe It’s Time To Take A Closer  
Look At Why So Many Veterans Are  
Homeless And Unable To Fit Back  
Into This Society Upon Their Return”  
“If We Were To Stop All The Militarism,  
We Would Have Fewer Homeless Vets  
And Fewer Refugees Too”**

From: Nancy Sindelar, Veterans For Peace  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Date: May 27, 2017

This is the content of a letter I wrote that will appear in my local paper on Sunday.

\*\*\*\*\*

I stopped by the grocery store this afternoon, and saw a women wearing a T-shirt with "House Veterans before Refugees" emblazoned on the front.

I asked if she was a vet, no, but her husband was.

I spent just short of 24 years in the military. Unless we are indigenous, we are all the children of immigrants and refugees.

Why should we value one group of people over another? Doesn't every human deserve decent housing? It seems that by putting people in castes, we assume that some are better than others, in our mind's eye, refugees are dark skinned, non English speaking and poor and less human. After all, they are fleeing fighting while our heroic soldiers are going in. This points to the roots of racism, a dark part of our national ethos.

Then there are the veterans we deport.

They were told they could get their citizenship if they just signed on the dotted line. It is near impossible to file all the correct paperwork while in training or overseas, and should they be caught misbehaving or self medicating like their fellow returning service members, out the door they go, to become refugees in a country they may have never known, and without the benefits they were promised.

And why so many refugees?

Could it be they are fleeing from any of the seven countries the United States has engaged in the last year (Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, Yemen, and Libya)?

Or could they be victims of US weapons sold to other countries?

We are the single largest exporter of military weapons, and about 40% goes to the Middle East. When nations spend their national treasure on weapons, they're not spending those funds on their people for food, housing, schools, medicine, etc.

Instead of degrading refugees, maybe it's time to take a closer look at why so many veterans are homeless and unable to fit back into this society upon their return.

If we were to stop all the militarism, we would have fewer homeless vets and fewer refugees too.

Nancy Sindelar, Veterans For Peace

---

## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

# **Brazil's Temer Govt Revokes Army Deployment Decree Amid Outrage: Decree Sending In Troops To Control Mass Protests In Brasilia, Including Giving Soldiers Policing Powers, Was Expected To Last For A Week "A Turnout Of 150,000 Demonstrators Under The Banner 'Occupy Brasilia'"**

Brazil's government revoked Thursday a presidential decree deploying the military in Brasilia to quell mass protests against unelected President Michel Temer, high-level corruption and unpopular neoliberal austerity measures.

The government deployed soldiers Wednesday to crack down on the popular uprising, claiming that riot police forces were unable to handle the tens of thousands of demonstrators that flooded the streets of the capital city to demand Temer's resignation and early elections to choose a new president before the scheduled 2018 ballot.

Organizers estimated the protests boasted a turnout of 150,000 demonstrators under the banner "Occupy Brasilia," a massive crowd in the city of about 3 million.

The decision to call in the military was strongly criticized by Temer's opponents, as well as some of his allies, with opposition lawmakers walking out of Congress Wednesday in protest of the move.

Approximately 50 people were injured amid clashes that erupted during the protests as police and military employed pepper spray, tear gas, rubber bullets and batons against the demonstrators. The decree also gave soldiers policing rights and the power to make arrests.

According to Brazil's Folha de Sao Paulo newspaper, advisors had warned Temer before his announcement of the decree that the move could have a negative impact on his reputation, already tarnished by widespread government corruption and his forceful implementation of an austerity agenda.

The latest protests against the Temer administration, installed last year with the removal of former President Dilma Rousseff in an impeachment process widely condemned as a parliamentary coup, come on the heels of the most severe scandal to hit the government yet after a wiretap recording revealed Temer had endorsed bribes to keep quiet a powerful witness in corruption investigations.

Temer faces investigations for corruption and obstruction of justice after the damning wiretap.

The president has vowed that he will not step down over the scandal, saying in an interview with Folha de Sao Paulo, "I won't resign, oust me if you want."

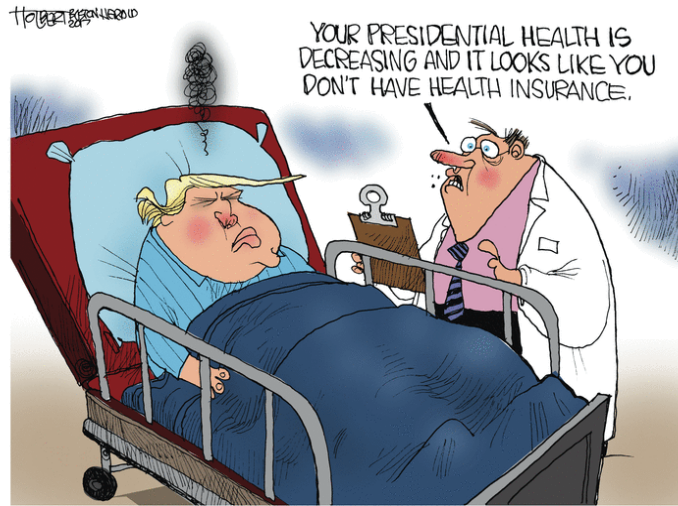
The deeply unpopular Temer administration has also sparked widespread outrage with a series of controversial neoliberal policies — including a reform that freezes public spending for two decades — that are expected to hit poor and marginalized Brazilians hardest by rolling back a number of social programs, including education, health, pensions and labor laws.

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

**Same address to unsubscribe.**

# DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out**  
**Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website**  
<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: [law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml](http://law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml) for

more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

---

**If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.**