

GI SPECIAL 7G2:

Barack Obama looking through all the projected dividends expected to come from his Iraq policy, his Afghanistan policy, his healthcare policy and his economic policy for his old campaign promises because, during such trying times, he understands how important it is to laugh.



Notes From A Lost War:

**“Every Step You Think This
Could Be My Last”**

**“The Marines Patrol Only Behind
An Engineer Who Sweeps The
Ground With A Detector”**

“They Don’t Have Is Enough Men To Hold Seized Ground”
“We Would Just Be Mowing The Weeds,” Said Capt. Zachary Martin Of Any Move To Drive Out The Taliban”



June 20, 2009: U.S. Marines from the 2nd MEB, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines battle Taliban fighters inside a mud walled compound near Now Zad in Afghanistan’s Helmand province. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)

June 30, 2009 The Associated Press

NOW ZAD, Afghanistan - U.S. Marines patrol slowly along streets laced with land mines and lined with abandoned shops, clinics and homes. As night falls over this Afghan ghost town, the only sounds are the howling of coyotes and the creaking of tin roofs in the wind.

Three years after its residents fled, the once bustling town of Now Zad is the scene of a stalemate between a company of newly arrived Marines and a band of Taliban fighters.

The Americans have plenty of firepower. What they don’t have is enough men to hold seized ground.

“We would just be mowing the weeds,” said Capt. Zachary Martin of any move to drive out the Taliban.

It’s unclear if more troops will be deployed to this town in Helmand province, the heart of the Taliban insurgency and the opium poppy trade that funds it. For the meantime at

least, it appears Now Zad is too valuable to abandon to the insurgents — but not valuable enough for an all-out offensive.

The 300 or so Marines in Now Zad regularly patrol areas close to the Taliban front lines, skirmishing with them and risking attacks from the area's biggest killer — IEDs.

Over the last month, improvised explosive devices have killed one Marine and wounded seven.

Four of the men — including the fatality — suffered double leg amputations.

“Welcome to Hell,” reads one message spray-painted on a wall in the town's main base by British troops whom the Marines replaced last year.

“Good Luck USA,” reads another.

But with Now Zad's 10,000 to 35,000 residents long gone, there are no hearts and minds to woo here — even it were safe enough to build schools, clinics and roads. The town also has no local security forces, and no one can say when they will arrive.

“Even in our wildest dreams we are not going to have enough Marines and soldiers to be everywhere,” said Brig. Gen. Larry Nicholson, the commander of the first wave of 10,000 new troops pouring into Helmand and surrounding provinces.

Now Zad remains so dangerous that this is the only Marine unit in Afghanistan that brings along two trauma doctors, as well as two armored vehicles used as ambulances and supplies of fresh blood.

Apart from one small stretch of paved road, the Marines patrol only behind an engineer who sweeps the ground with a detector.

The men who follow scratch out a path in the sand with their foot to ensure those trailing them do not stray off course. Each carries at least one tourniquet.

“It's a hell of ride,” said Lance Cpl. Aenoi Luangxay, a 20-year-old engineer on his first deployment. “Every step you think this could be my last,” said Aenoi, who has found six bombs in the company's four weeks in the town.

Just after midnight recently, the medics were wakened by a familiar report: A patrol had hit an IED in town. Within five minutes, they put on their flak jackets and helmets and were in their vehicles leaving the base.

The bomb blew the legs off Cpl. Matthew Lembke as he walked to a building. Lembke, from Tualatin, Ore., was loaded onto the ambulance. On the trip to the helicopter landing zone, the medics tightened his tourniquets and gave him two units of blood along with antibiotics.

At one point, he stopped breathing. The medical team used equipment on board to pump air into his lungs.

“Our aim and intent is to give the guys the optimum chance of survival from the first minute,” said the commander of the Shock Trauma Platoon, Sean Barbabella, of Chesapeake, Va. “If it was my son or brother out there, that is what I would want.”

Lembke was in stable condition Monday at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

The men of Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines in Now Zad know where to find their enemy — to the north of town, in a maze of compounds and tunnels that back onto lush pomegranate orchards.

The Marines are garrisoned in a base that occupies the town’s former administrative center.

They also have fortified observations posts on two hills. In one of them, named ANP hill after the Afghan police who presumably once had a post there, the men sleep in “hobbit holes” dug into the earth. The underground briefing room is partly held up by an aging Russian Howitzer gun.

Each day, the Marines aggressively patrol to limit the Taliban’s freedom of movement. They keep a 24-hour watch on the battlefield using high-tech surveillance equipment and are able to fire mortar rounds at insurgents spotted planting bombs or gathering in numbers.

A recent daylong battle showed the massive difference in firepower between the two sides, as well as the tenacity of the Taliban. It took place close to “Pakistani Alley,” so named because of one-time reports that fighters from across the border were deployed along the road.

The insurgents opened fire from behind high-walled compounds with automatic weapons, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades against five armored vehicles; the Marines responded with machine gunfire and frequently called in airstrikes.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

July 1, 2009 By Laith Hammoudi, McClatchy Newspapers & 7.2.09 Salam Faraj, AFP & (Reuters) & By VOA News

A policeman was injured by a roadside bomb that targeted his patrol in Tameem neighborhood in east Mosul.

“A roadside bomb targeted an Iraqi army patrol about 8 am (0500 GMT) in Abu Nawas Street in Baghdad,” an interior ministry official said. “One Iraqi soldier was killed and two soldiers wounded.”

In the oil hub of Kirkuk in northern Iraq, Major Saddam Hussein was killed this morning after being attacked by insurgents who pumped 24 bullets into his body.

A roadside bomb went off near an Iraqi army patrol in Mosul, wounding three soldiers in western Mosul, police said.

One policeman was killed and two wounded by a sticky bomb attached to their vehicle in the city of Falluja, 50 km (35 miles) west of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb struck an Iraqi army patrol in the capital Thursday, killing an Iraqi soldier and wounding at least eight others.

**IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE
END THE OCCUPATIONS**

**OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION
ALL TROOPS HOME NOW!**

Iraq Death Toll In June "Highest In 11 Months"

UK.news.yahoo

The month of June witnessed the highest number of deaths from violence in Iraq for 11 months, official figures showed on Wednesday, with 437 people killed across the conflict-hit nation.

Statistics compiled by the defence, interior and health ministries said that 372 civilians, 45 policemen and 20 soldiers died, the highest total since July last year.

There were also 960 civilians, 101 police and 34 soldiers wounded in June, according to the figures.

The figures compared with the total of 465 people that were killed in July 2008.

**Change They're Not Stupid
Enough To Believe In:
"They Will Not Withdraw To Their
Homes; They Will Stay Here And**

There So That They Can Return In Emergencies” “So It Is Not Sovereignty, According To My Point Of View”

June 30, 2009 By ALISSA J. RUBIN, New York Times

From Basra in the south to Mosul in the north, Iraqis expressed skepticism about the proclamation of “independence.”

“They will not withdraw to their homes; they will stay here and there so that they can return in emergencies,” said Samir Alwan, 28, the owner of a mini-market in Basra.

“So it is not sovereignty, according to my point of view, and I think that the Iraqi Army is only able to secure the south of the country and unable to secure Baghdad and Mosul.”

“Resistance Is For All Iraqis, Across The Spectrum, From The North To The South” “The Withdrawal Was A Mere ‘Media Announcement’”

July 1, 2009 By CAMPBELL ROBERTSON, The New York Times Company [Excerpts]

A day after Iraqis celebrated the formal withdrawal of American combat troops from towns and cities, leaders of some of the most high-profile insurgent and opposition groups had their say on Wednesday.

Iraqi opposition and insurgent leaders consider themselves to have as much legitimacy as, or more than, Iraqi government officials, and formal statements on such a symbolic occasion are expected.

The Association of Muslim Scholars, a clerical group that has condoned attacks against the American military, issued a statement in which it condemned sectarianism and urged Iraqis to avoid harming other Iraqis. “Resistance is for all Iraqis, across the spectrum, from the north to the south,” the statement read.

Moktada al-Sadr, who has increasingly distanced his movement from the use of violence, was less celebratory in his statement, expressing concerns that the withdrawal was a mere “media announcement.”

It would be “a bright page in the honest Iraqi resistance’s history” if it were real, he said, but he highlighted the continuing presence of American military advisers, who are allowed to stay in the cities under the security agreement between Iraq and the United States, as evidence that June 30 is not the symbolic victory the government has suggested it is.

“What Do I Tell A Child If He Asks Me, ‘Why Are The Americans Still Patrolling?’”

July 01, 2009 By Mike Tharp, Baghdad Observer

Insurgent attacks have dropped to around 1.7 a day from 2.5 a year ago, but residents still fear for their safety.

The general, waving a two-page Arabic-language document, and sometimes holding a phone to each ear, was confused about whether U.S. combat forces would still be patrolling--on their own--without the Iraqis asking for help.

Brig Gen. Tha’ir said it was crucial that Americans hold up their end of the bargain.

“What do I tell a child if he asks me, ‘Why are the Americans still patrolling?’ Or a woman?”

“Sami Paid The Wages From His Job As A Bribe To Save His Motorcycle” “And His Family Went To Bed Without Supper Because The Police Took All His Money” [Grounds For Attacking Cops In Any Society]

July 01, 2009 by Correspondent Jenan, Inside Iraq

Recently, most bombs in Baghdad have been caused by booby-trapped motorcycles.

Blocked roads, congestion and expensive fares are reasons made many Iraqis use motorcycles as an easy means for transportation. But for the same reasons, terrorists use motorcycles to carry out their deadly missions: killing Iraqis in markets and public places.

The Iraqi government took a special measure to protect Iraqis: They banned and confiscated motorcycles on the streets of Baghdad!

And as usual, corrupt people, who are spread everywhere Iraq of today, used this as pretext to make money.

My relative, Sami, returned recently after spending one year in Sweden running from the miserable conditions in his neighborhood. The man returned because he wasn't given refugee status in Sweden. On his long trip he lost all his savings. So, like many Iraqis, he bought a motorcycle to save the money that he was spending on taxi fares.

On the day after the explosion that shook Sadr City, killing at least 65, the government decided to ban and confiscate all motorcycles from the streets because the attack was done by a booby-trapped three-wheeled motorcycle.

Sami hadn't heard of this decision. There was no great effort made to inform people of this decision.

So out he went, happy to bypass all the poor car drivers waiting in long queues at checkpoints. Then a traffic police patrol arrested him with his son in the Karrada neighborhood.

It turns out he wasn't the only one arrested. A lot of people had hit the streets with their motorbikes. They didn't know either.

Sami spent more than two hours trying to convince the officers that he hadn't heard of the ban.

Finally, the top-ranking officer came in and asked his men "Did they grease your palm?" ... "No, not yet" the policeman answered with a smile.

Sami paid the wages from his job as a bribe to save his motorcycle. And his family went to bed without supper because the police took all his money..

As usual, it is the poor Iraqis who pay the cost for the on-the-spur-of-the-minute decisions made by the Iraqi government.

Innocent Iraqis are the quiet victims of corrupt officials.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Sullivan Marine Killed In Afghanistan

06/12/2009 By Maggie Rotermund, St. Clair Missourian Editor

A Marine from Sullivan was killed this week while supporting combat operations in Afghanistan.

Chief Warrant Officer Ricky L. Richardson Jr., 33, died Wednesday, June 10, in the western province of Farah.

Richardson was an explosive disposal technician.

Family members told KTVI-TV that he was killed while dismantling a bomb.

A Department of Defense news release did not indicate a cause of death. Richardson entered the U.S. Marine Corps in April 1996.

Richardson was part of an engineering support battalion based in Okinawa, Japan. Sullivan Mayor J.T. Hardy said Richardson's wife, Jenny, would be flying in from Japan Friday night.

"I believe funeral arrangements won't be made until this weekend at the earliest," Hardy said. The arrangements are being handled by Eaton Funeral Home.

The city of Sullivan is planning to honor Richardson's memory by lining the streets when his body arrives. "I believe it will be Monday," Hardy said, although plans are not finalized. "The V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary is buying flags and preparing to line the streets." Hardy said the body will be escorted from the airport to the funeral home. "I still don't know yet if he is flying into St. Louis or Springfield," he said.

Hardy asked that residents of neighboring communities also come out to honor Richardson's memory.

"It would be great to see people on the highway overpasses in St. Clair, Pacific and Gray Summit," he said.

Hardy said he made a request to the governor's office to have flags in the state flown at half-staff the day of the funeral.

"Regardless of protocol, I've already had the city flags lowered," he said. Richardson is a 1994 graduate of Sullivan High School.

He and his wife, who also is from the Sullivan area, were married in the area. He and his wife had one child, 8-year-old Cole.

**High Ranking British Officer
Blown Up In Helmand;
“His Death Is A Huge Propaganda
Coup For The Taliban And A
Massive Blow For The Welsh
Guards And The Army”
Enlisted Soldier Killed And Six More
Wounded In Same Attack;
“More Than 25 British Soldiers Wounded
This Week Alone”**

02nd July 2009 By Daily Mail Reporter

The commander of a British Battle Group spearheading the fight against the Taliban has been killed in an Afghanistan roadside bombing - the most senior UK officer to die in action since the Falklands.

Lieutenant Colonel Rupert Thorneloe, of the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, died when his command vehicle was blown up by an improvised explosive device.

He is the most senior British officer to die in combat since Lt Colonel 'H' Jones, commander of 2 Para, was shot dead by Argentine forces during the battle of Goose Green in the Falklands War of 1982.

A soldier of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, Trooper Joshua Hammond, also died in the blast on Wednesday while taking part in Operation Panther's Claw - one of the UK's biggest co-ordinated air operations of modern times.

Six other soldiers were wounded.

Lt Col Thorneloe, 40, was the Commander of the Centre South Battle Group tasked to drive the Taliban out of strongholds in and around Babaji, north of Lashkar Gah in central Helmand province.

Tonight, General Sir Richard Dannatt, Chief of the General Staff, described the death as a 'devastating blow' to the Welsh Guards and the Army.

The deaths come at the end of one of the bloodiest weeks of fighting in Helmand province in the three-year long NATO operation with more than 25 British soldiers wounded this week alone.

Lt Col Thorneloe, whose wife Sally was being comforted last night, was travelling in a tracked Viking vehicle at the time of the attack after attending a meeting with commanders to discuss the ongoing offensive.

His death is a huge propaganda coup for the Taliban and a massive blow for the Aldershot-based Welsh Guards, who have now had three officers killed during the present deployment to Afghanistan

Only last month, Lt Col Thorneloe led the tributes to another senior officer, Major Sean Birchall, who died when an IED blew up his Jackal armoured vehicle.

It is unclear whether the death of the commanding officer was a 'lucky hit' for the Taliban or if they knew they were attacking his vehicle. He had been high profile in Helmand and had met with local Afghan leaders.

The attack will once again throw the spotlight on the controversial Viking vehicles - 20 British soldiers have died in them in Afghanistan - and they are due to be withdrawn next year.

One Marine Killed In Helmand: “Several Other Marines Have Been Wounded Or Injured”

07/02/09 AP

It's the first day of a major U.S. offensive against the Taliban in southern Afghanistan, and the military says one Marine has been killed.

Officials say several other Marines have been wounded or injured during today's action.

Marines poured into villages controlled by the Taliban along about 20 miles of the Helmand River.

Resistance Captures U.S. Soldier In Mullakheil

[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Project, who sent this in.]

Jul 2 By FISNIK ABRASHI, Associated Press Writer & By Khan Mohammad (AFP) & BBC

An American soldier, who disappeared after walking off his base in eastern Afghanistan with three Afghan counterparts, has been captured, officials said Thursday.

The BBC's security correspondent Frank Gardner says the circumstances of this capture are strange and potentially very embarrassing for the Pentagon.

The Taliban are claiming he was drunk when they caught him, he says.

A commander of the Taliban's Haqqani faction told an AFP reporter that his militia had captured a US trooper and three Afghans in the province of Paktika, which borders Pakistan.

"One of our commanders named Mawlawi Sangin has captured a coalition soldier along with his three Afghan guards in Yousuf Khail district of Paktika province," the commander, named only Bahram, told AFP.

"The coalition soldier has been taken to a safe place," he said.

The militia's leaders would likely issue demands for his release, said the commander who is known to the reporter.

"Our leaders have not decided on the fate of this soldier. They will decide on his fate and soon we will present video tapes of the coalition soldier and our demand to media," he said.

Spokeswoman Capt. Elizabeth Mathias said the soldier disappeared Tuesday.

"We understand him to be have been captured by militant forces. We have all available resources out there looking for him and hopefully providing for his safe return," Mathias said.

Afghan Police Gen. Nabi Mullakheil said the soldier went missing in the Mullakheil area of eastern Paktika province, where there is an American base.

The soldier was noticed missing during a routine check of the unit on Tuesday and was first listed as "duty status whereabouts unknown," a U.S. defense official said on condition of anonymity.

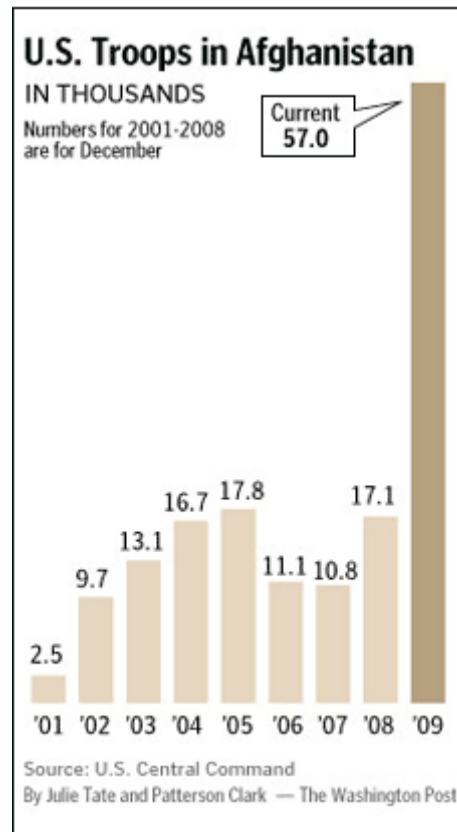
It wasn't until Thursday that officials said publicly that he was missing and described him as "believed captured."

Initial reports indicated that the soldier was off duty at the time he went missing, having just completed a shift, the official said on condition of anonymity because details are still sketchy.

The missing man is an enlisted soldier, and his family has been notified.

Two U.S. defense sources said the soldier “just walked off” post with three Afghan counterparts after he finished working. They said they had no explanation for why he left the base.

He was assigned to a combat outpost, one of a number of smaller bases set up by foreign forces in Afghanistan, the officials said.



The Stupid, Clueless, Troop-Killing Brass-Kissing Shitheads Have Learned Nothing And Forgotten Nothing

[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Project, who sent this in.]

July 2, 2009 By Peter Graff, Reuters [Excerpt]

Thousands of U.S. Marines were told they were about to make history before they set out on Thursday to wrest control of Afghanistan’s southern Helmand province away from the Taliban.

“You’re going to change the world this summer and it starts this morning,” Lieutenant Colonel Christian Cabaniss, commander of the 2nd battalion, 8th Marines, told his troops dressed in desert fatigues before they mounted helicopters and humvees.

July 2, 1967 FTA News Service

Thousands of U.S. Marines were told they were about to make history before they set out on Thursday to wrest control of Vietnam’s Central Highlands away from the North Vietnamese army.

“You’re going to change the world this summer and it starts this morning,” General William Westmoreland, commander of United States forces in Vietnam, told his troops dressed in desert fatigues before they mounted helicopters and armored personnel carriers.

**BAD IDEA:
NO MISSION;
POINTLESS WAR:
ALL HOME NOW**



U.S. soldiers patrol the mountains of in the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan’s Kunar Province May 9, 2009. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS



Al-Shabab resistance fighters patrol in southern Mogadishu's Bakara market during a raid by the group to find and punish traders that sell expired food. (AFP/Mustafa Abdi)

TROOP NEWS

**THIS IS HOW OBAMA BRINGS THE TROOPS
HOME:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



The body of Army staff sergeant Gary L. Woods, Jr. next to the transfer case containing Army sergeant Edward W. Forrest, Jr at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, April 12, 2009. Army staff sergeant Gary L. Woods, Jr from Lebanon Junction, Kentucky and Army

sergeant Edward W. Forrest, Jr from St. Louis, Missouri were killed while serving in Iraq.
REUTERS/Tim Shaffer

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.”

Frederick Douglass, 1852

**“Hope for change doesn’t cut it when you’re still losing buddies.”
-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

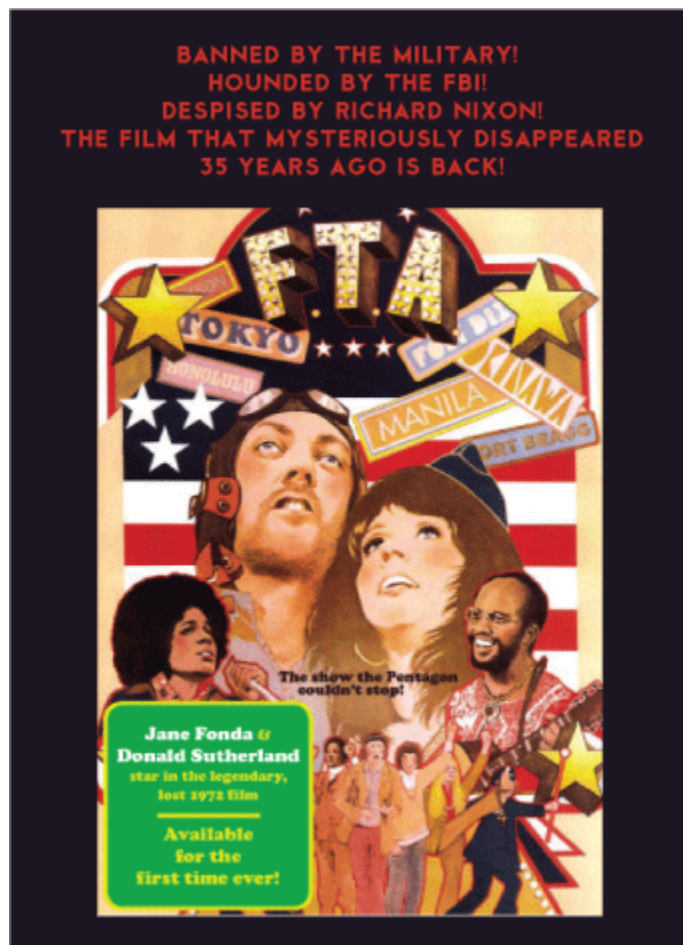
**“The mighty are only mighty because we are on our knees. Let us rise!”
-- Camille Desmoulins**

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

FTA Is Back!

The Film Provides A Rare Glimpse Into The Revolt From Below That Ultimately Forced The Pentagon To Withdraw In Defeat From Vietnam



FTA Trailer

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HlkgPCgU7g&eurl=http://imgineaworldof.blogspot.com/&feature=player_embedded

**FINALLY, AFTER 35-YEARS IN EXILE
FTA IS BACK! AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 24
EXCLUSIVELY ON DVD
FROM DISPLACED FILMS AND
NEW VIDEO/ DOCURAMA**

FTA:

Ultra-Rare! F.T.A. (aka FREE THE ARMY aka FUN, TRAVEL, ADVENTURE), 1972, Displaced Films, 97 min. Dir. Francine Parker.

F.T.A. was originally released by American-International but pulled from distribution after only one week, with rumors of pressure from the Pentagon.

– Phil Hall, Film Threat

To Get Your Copy Of FTA:

<http://www.sirnosir.com/FTA.html>

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?

Forward GI Special along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the wars, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Project, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 917.677.8057

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!
Mutiny On The Amistad:
July 2, 1839**

“53 Slaves Recently Abducted From Africa, Revolted”



Peace History June 26-July 2 By Carl Bunin [Excerpt] Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc.

(July 2, 1839)

Amistad Mutiny: slave rebellion that took place on the slave ship Amistad near the coast of Cuba and had important political and legal repercussions in the American Abolitionist movement.

The mutineers were captured and tried in the United States, and a surprising victory for the country's antislavery forces resulted in 1841 when the U.S. Supreme Court freed the rebels. A committee formed to defend the slaves later developed into the American Missionary Association (incorporated 1846).

On July 2, 1839, the Spanish schooner Amistad was sailing from Havana to Puerto Príncipe, Cuba, when the ship's unwilling passengers, 53 slaves recently abducted from Africa, revolted.

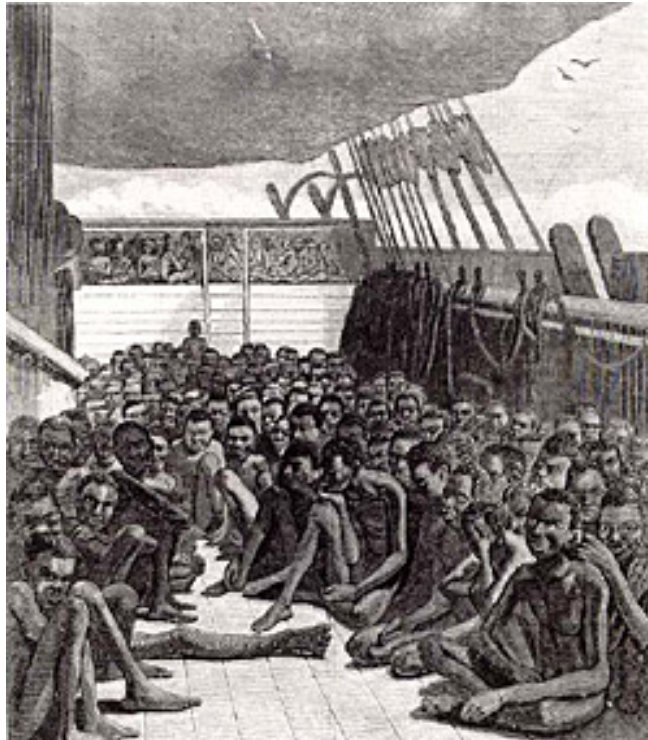
Led by Joseph Cinqué, they killed the captain and the cook but spared the life of a Spanish navigator, so that he could sail them home to Sierra Leone.

The navigator managed instead to sail the Amistad generally northward. Two months later the U.S. Navy seized the ship off Long Island, N.Y., and towed it into New London,

Conn. The mutineers were held in a jail in New Haven, Conn., a state in which slavery was legal.

The Spanish embassy's demand for the return of the Africans to Cuba led to an 1840 trial in a Hartford, Conn., federal court. New England Abolitionist Lewis Tappan stirred public sympathy for the African captives, while the U.S. government took the proslavery side. U.S.

President Martin Van Buren ordered a Navy ship sent to Connecticut to return the Africans to Cuba immediately after the trial. A candidate for reelection that year, he anticipated a ruling against the defendants and hoped to gain proslavery votes by removing the Africans before Abolitionists could appeal to a higher court.



Prosecutors argued that, as slaves, the mutineers were subject to the laws governing conduct between slaves and their masters. But trial testimony determined that while slavery was legal in Cuba, importation of slaves from Africa was not.

Therefore, the judge ruled, rather than being merchandise, the Africans were victims of kidnapping and had the right to escape their captors in any way they could.

When the U.S. government appealed the case before the U.S. Supreme Court the next year, congressman and former president John Quincy Adams argued eloquently for the Amistad rebels.

The Supreme Court upheld the lower court, and private and missionary society donations helped the 35 surviving Africans secure passage home. They arrived in Sierra

Leone in January 1842, along with five missionaries and teachers who intended to found a Christian mission.

Spain continued to insist that the United States pay indemnification for the Cuban vessel. The U.S. Congress intermittently debated the Amistad case, without resolution, for more than two decades, until the American Civil War began in 1861.



1915: “The Struggle Against The Government That Conducts The Imperialist War Must Not Halt In Any Country Before The Possibility Of That Country’s Defeat”

March 29, 1915, V.I. Ulyanov, Sostial Demokrat [The writer used the pen name “Lenin” to keep the government from terrorizing his family. Excerpts]

Some of the means employed to fool the working class are pacifism and the abstract preachment of peace.

A propaganda of peace at the present time, if not accompanied by a call to revolutionary mass actions, is only capable of spreading illusions, of demoralizing the proletariat by imbuing it with confidence in the humanitarianism of the bourgeoisie, and of making it a plaything in the hands of the secret diplomacy of the belligerent countries.

In particular, the idea of the possibility of a so-called democratic peace without a series of revolutions is deeply erroneous.

The struggle against the government that conducts the imperialist war must not halt in any country before the possibility of that country's defeat in consequence of revolutionary propaganda.

The defeat of the governmental army weakens the government, aids the liberation of the nationalities oppressed by it, and makes civil war against the ruling classes easier.

**POLITICIANS CAN'T BE COUNTED ON TO HALT
THE BLOODSHED**

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE
WARS**

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**One Of The Last Survivors Of
Auschwitz Says "I Can Write Up An
Endless List Of Similarities Between
Nazi Germany And Israel"**

**"Israel By Means Of Trickery Calls Itself
A Jewish State, While In Fact It Is
Zionist"**



Hajo Meyer (Christiane Tilanus)

2 June 2009 Hajo Meyer interviewed by Adri Nieuwhof, The Electronic Intifada

Hajo Meyer, author of the book *The End of Judaism*, was born in Bielefeld, in Germany, in 1924.

In 1939, he fled on his own at age 14 to the Netherlands to escape the Nazi regime, and was unable to attend school.

A year later, when the Germans occupied the Netherlands he lived in hiding with a poorly forged ID. Meyer was captured by the Gestapo in March 1944 and deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp a week later.

He is one of the last survivors of Auschwitz.

Adri Nieuwhof: What would you like to say to introduce yourself to EI's readers?

Hajo Meyer: I had to quit grammar school in Bielefeld after the Kristallnacht (the two-day pogrom against Jews in Nazi Germany), in November 1938. It was a terrible experience for an inquisitive boy and his parents.

Therefore, I can fully identify with the Palestinian youth that are hampered in their education.

And I can in no way identify with the criminals who make it impossible for Palestinian youth to be educated.

*AN: What motivated you to write your book, *The End of Judaism*?*

HM: In the past, the European media have written extensively about extreme right-wing politicians like Joerg Haider in Austria and Jean-Marie Le Pen in France. But when Ariel Sharon was elected (prime minister) in Israel in 2001, the media remained silent.

But in the 1980s I understood the deeply fascist thinking of these politicians.

With the book I wanted to distance myself from this.

I was raised in Judaism with the equality of relationships among human beings as a core value.

I only learned about nationalist Judaism when I heard settlers defend their harassment of Palestinians in interviews.

When a publisher asked me to write about my past, I decided to write this book, in a way, to deal with my past.

People of one group who dehumanize people who belong to another group can do this, because they either have learned to do so from their parents, or they have been

brainwashed by their political leaders. This has happened for decades in Israel in that they manipulate the Holocaust for their political aims. In the long-run the country is destructing itself this way by inducing their Jewish citizens to become paranoid.

In 2005 (then Prime Minister Ariel) Sharon illustrated this by saying in the Knesset, we know we cannot trust anyone, we only can trust ourselves. This is the shortest possible definition of somebody who suffers from clinical paranoia.

One of the major annoyances in my life is that Israel by means of trickery calls itself a Jewish state, while in fact it is Zionist.

It wants the maximum territory with a minimum number of Palestinians. I have four Jewish grandparents. I am an atheist. I share the Jewish socio-cultural inheritance and I have learned about Jewish ethics.

I don't wish to be represented by a Zionist state. They have no idea about the Holocaust. They use the Holocaust to implant paranoia in their children.

AN: In your book you write about the lessons you have learned from your past. Can you explain how your past influenced your perception of Israel and Palestine?

HM: I have never been a Zionist.

After the war, Zionist Jews spoke about the miracle of having “our own country.” As a confirmed atheist I thought, if this is a miracle by God, I wished that he had performed the smallest miracle imaginable by creating the state 15 years earlier. Then my parents would not have been dead.

I can write up an endless list of similarities between Nazi Germany and Israel.

The capturing of land and property, denying people access to educational opportunities and restricting access to earn a living to destroy their hope, all with the aim to chase people away from their land.

And what I personally find more appalling than dirtying one's hands by killing people, is creating circumstances where people start to kill each other. Then the distinction between victims and perpetrators becomes faint. By sowing discord in a situation where there is no unity, by enlarging the gap between people -- like Israel is doing in Gaza.

AN: In your book you write about the role of Jews in the peace movement in and outside Israel, and Israeli army refuseniks. How do you value their contribution?

HM: Of course it is positive that parts of the Jewish population of Israel try to see Palestinians as human beings and as their equals. However, it disturbs me how paper-thin the number is that protests and is truly anti-Zionist.

We get worked up by what happened in Hitler's Germany. If you expressed only the slightest hint of criticism at that time, you ended up in the Dachau concentration camp. If you expressed criticism, you were dead. Jews in Israel have democratic rights. They can protest in the streets, but they don't.

AN: Can you comment on the news that Israeli ministers approved a draft law banning commemoration of the Nakba, or the dispossession of historic Palestine? The law proposes punishment of up to three years in prison.

HM: It is so racist, so dreadful. I am at a loss for words. It is an expression of what we already know. (The Israeli Nakba commemoration organization) Zochrot was founded to counteract Israeli efforts to wipe out the marks that are a reminder of Palestinian life.

To forbid Palestinians to publicly commemorate the Nakba. ... they cannot act in a more Nazi-like, fascist way. Maybe it will help to awaken the world.

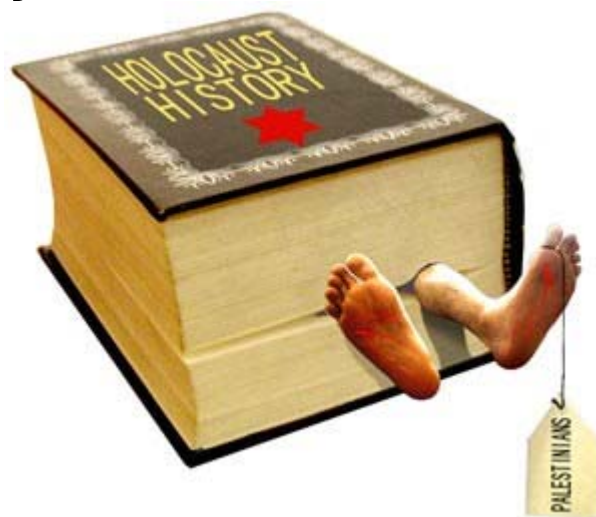
AN: What are your plans for the future?

HM: (Laughs) Do you know how old I am? I am almost 85 years old.

I always say cynically and with self-mockery that I have a choice: either I am always tired because I want to do so much, or I am going to sit still waiting for the time to go by.

Well, I plan to be tired, because I have still so much to say.

Zionist Rats Depriving Palestinians Laborers Of Food And Water; “The Food Quantities Allowed By Modi’in Ezrahi Do Not Meet The Daily Dietary Needs Of The Workers”



[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Project, who sent this in.]

29/06/2009 By Amira Hass, Haaretz [Israel] [Excerpts]

A West Bank checkpoint managed by a private security company is not allowing Palestinians to pass through with large water bottles and some food items, Haaretz has learned.

MachsomWatch discovered the policy, which Palestinian workers confirmed to Haaretz.

The Defense Ministry stated in response that non-commercial quantities of food were not being limited. **[The stupidity of the terrorist lies is really world-class.]**

It made no reference to the issue of water.

The checkpoint, Sha'ar Efraim, is south of Tul Karm, and is managed for the Defense Ministry by the private security company Modi'in Ezrahi.

The company stops Palestinian workers from passing through the checkpoint with the following items: Large bottles of frozen water, large bottles of soft drinks, home-cooked food, coffee, tea and the spice zaatar.

The security company also dictates the quantity of items allowed: Five pitas, one container of hummus and canned tuna, one small bottle or can of beverage, one or two slices of cheese, a few spoonfuls of sugar, and 5 to 10 olives.

Workers are also not allowed to carry cooking utensils and work tools.

MachsomWatch told Haaretz that Sunday, a 32-year-old construction worker from Tul Karm, who is employed in Hadera, was not allowed to carry his lunch bag through the checkpoint.

The bag contained six pitas, 2 cans of cream cheese, one kilogram of sugar in a plastic bag, and a salad, also in a plastic bag.

The typical Palestinian laborer in Israel has a 12-hour workday, including travel time and checkpoint delays. Many leave home as early as 2 A.M. in order to wait in line at the checkpoint; tardiness to work often results in immediate dismissal. Workers return home around 5 P.M. The wait at the checkpoint can take one to two hours in each direction, if not longer.

The food quantities allowed by Modi'in Ezrahi do not meet the daily dietary needs of the workers, and they prefer not to buy food at the considerably more expensive Israeli stores.

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**Obama Regime Traitors Happy To Use Confession Produced By Torture:
After Military Judge Throws Out “Statements Elicited Through ‘Physical Intimidation And Threats Of Death’ Obama Prosecutors Want “To Use Those Very Confessions To Justify Jawad’s Detention”**

July 2, 2009 By Del Quentin Wilber, Washington Post Staff Writer

The American Civil Liberties Union yesterday accused the Obama administration of using statements elicited through torture to justify the confinement of a detainee it represents at the U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The ACLU is asking a federal judge to throw out those statements and others made by Mohammed Jawad, an Afghan who may have been as young as 12 when he was captured. His attorney argued that Jawad was abused in U.S. custody, threatened and subjected to intense sleep deprivation.

“The government’s continued reliance on evidence gained by torture and other abuse violates centuries of U.S. law and suggests the current administration is not really serious about breaking with the past,” said ACLU lawyer Jonathan Hafetz, who is representing Jawad in a lawsuit challenging his detention.

Justice Department spokesman Dean Boyd said the government would not comment on the types of evidence it will use in Jawad’s case challenging his imprisonment. “We intend to prove our case in court rather than attempt to do so through the media,” Boyd said.

In court papers, the Justice Department alleges that Jawad threw a grenade into a vehicle containing two U.S. Special Forces soldiers and their Afghan interpreter on Dec. 17, 2002. Jawad was also associated with a group tied to Osama bin Laden, the government alleges. After the grenade attack, Jawad was picked up by Afghan police, according to military and federal court records.

During U.S. military commission hearings on his case, a judge found that Afghan interrogators threatened to kill Jawad and his family if he did not confess to playing a role in the attack. Jawad then admitted to participating in the attack, wrote the judge, Army Col. Stephen R. Henley.

Later the same night, he was questioned by U.S. Special Forces and confessed again, Henley wrote.

In November, Henley found that the first set of statements were elicited through “physical intimidation and threats of death” and that Jawad’s fears “had not dissipated by the second confession.”

He ruled that prosecutors could not use either of the confessions during military commission proceedings.

Despite Henley’s ruling, Hafetz said the Justice Department wants to use those very confessions to justify Jawad’s detention in the detainee’s lawsuit before U.S. District Judge Ellen S. Huvelle.

Those statements were tainted, Hafetz said, because Jawad was beaten, forced into painful “stress positions,” and chained to a wall and deprived of sleep in Bagram. At Guantanamo, Jawad was interrogated more than 50 times and subjected to sleep deprivation, Hafetz said.

Jawad's situation received attention last year when a military prosecutor abruptly quit his post, saying that the case was riddled with problems and that the prisoner had suffered physical and psychological mistreatment while in custody.

That former prosecutor, Darrel Vandeveld, later filed a declaration supporting Jawad's challenge to his confinement in a federal lawsuit.

"It is my opinion, based on my extensive knowledge of the case, that there is no credible evidence or legal basis to justify Mr. Jawad's detention," Vandeveld wrote.

Troops Invited:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 917.677.8057

CLASS WAR REPORTS



GI Special 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 occupation of Iraq. 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. **GI Special has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is GI Special 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: www.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, 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.