

GI SPECIAL 7H1:



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

**“A ‘Sudden Coolness’ To
American Advisers”**

**“The ‘Forcible Takeover’ Of A
Checkpoint In The Green Zone”**

**“The Iraqi Ground Forces Command
Has Imposed ‘Unilateral Restrictions’
On American Military Operations”**

“A Recent Willingness To Release Individuals Originally Detained By The U.S. For Attacks On The U.S.”

[Say, it sort of sounds like it would be prudent to run, do not walk, to the nearest exit before the Iraqis and their new Army suddenly snap and unload all over your friendly neighborhood occupying U.S. Imperial military forces. The warning signs are slowly accumulating for those not too blind and stupid to see where events are heading.

[The history of Iraq is instructive. King Faisal II and his government were tools of the British and French governments just before he was suddenly dead in his own royal courtyard in Baghdad July 14, 1958. The Iraqi collaborators who formed his government were also killed; some were chopped up and what was left of their bodies hung up for public viewing. That day, the Iraqi Army, backed by millions of very pissed off Iraqis, got tired of taking orders to fight for what the foreigners wanted. That was that. T]

[Thanks to Elaine Brower & Alan Stolzer, The Military Project, & Phil G, who sent this in.]

July 31, 2009 By MICHAEL R. GORDON, The New York Times [Excerpt]

WASHINGTON — A senior American military adviser in Baghdad has concluded in an unusually blunt memo that the Iraqi forces suffer from deeply entrenched deficiencies but are now capable of protecting the Iraqi government, and that it is time “for the U.S. to declare victory and go home.”

Prepared by Col. Timothy R. Reese, an adviser to the Iraqi military's Baghdad command, the memorandum asserts that the Iraqi forces have an array of problems, including corruption, poor management and the inability to resist political pressure from Shiite political parties.

“As the old saying goes, ‘Guests, like fish, begin to smell after three days,’ ” Colonel Reese wrote. “Since the signing of the 2009 Security Agreement, we are guests in Iraq, and after six years in Iraq, we now smell bad to the Iraqi nose.”

Colonel Reese’s memo lists a number of problems that have emerged since the withdrawal.

They include, he wrote, a “sudden coolness” to American advisers and the “forcible takeover” of a checkpoint in the Green Zone. Iraqi units, he added, are much less willing to conduct joint operations with their American counterparts “to go after targets the U.S. considers high value.”

The Iraqi Ground Forces Command, Colonel Reese wrote, has imposed “unilateral restrictions” on American military operations that “violate the most basic aspects” of American-Iraqi agreement.

“The Iraqi legal system in the Rusafa side of Baghdad has demonstrated a recent willingness to release individuals originally detained by the U.S. for attacks on the U.S.,” he added [translation: “for attacks on the U.S. occupation forces”].

“If there ever was a window where the seeds of a professional military culture could have been implanted, it is now long past. U.S. combat forces will not be here long enough or with sufficient influence to change it,” he wrote.

“The military culture of the Baathist-Soviet model under Saddam Hussein remains entrenched and will not change. The senior leadership of the I.S.F. is incapable of change in the current environment.”

WAR REPORT

Average 79.8 U.S. Troops Monthly “Killed Or Maimed” By Iraq & Afghanistan Insurgent Bombs

July 27, 2009 By BENEDICT CAREY, New York Times [Excerpt]

In May, coalition forces found 465 of them [“bombs”] in Afghanistan and 333 in Iraq.

The troops foiled more than half the traps over all — but about 10 percent of the bombs killed or maimed a soldier or a Marine. [Do the math.]

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Six Rockets Fired At U.S. Military Base In Basra; Casualties Not Announced

Jul 31, 2009 DPA

Four civilians were wounded Friday when a rocket hit a house in the southern port city of Basra.

'The rocket was one of six Katyushas that targeted a military base of the U.S. military base at the Basra International Airport,' a security source was quoted by the Voices of Iraq news agency as saying.

However, he said nothing about any damage from the other five rockets targeting the base, which is located 25 kilometres northwest of the oil-rich city.

So Much For That Lying Bullshit From Obama About How U.S. Combat Troops Have Withdrawn From Iraqi Cities – [Oh, Sorry, Baghdad Isn't Really A City, Right?]



A U.S. soldier stands guard during a reopening ceremony of a bridge connecting Shula and Ghazaliya districts in Baghdad July 28, 2009. REUTERS/Mohammed Ameen

British Troops Withdraw From Iraq Now:

“A National Embarrassment For Britain”

Only U.S. Occupiers Left

July 28, 2009(UPI) & 31 July 2009 RTÉ & DPA

British forces once stationed in Iraq moved to neighboring Kuwait due to the failure of the Iraqi Parliament to provide legal cover for their deployment.

British forces had operated out of a base in the southern port city of Basra in support of Operation Telic, their coordinated section of the U.S.-led effort in Iraq.

British Defense Secretary Bob Ainsworth said the remaining British trainers would remain in Kuwait until they had the permission to return to duty in Iraq but added the removal to Kuwait was a national embarrassment for Britain.

Britain ended its troop presence in Iraq concluding six years of military involvement in the country that began with the US-led invasion that ousted Saddam Hussein.

MORE:

U.S. Occupation Force In Iraq Soon To Be A Coalition Of One; No “Multi” In “The Multi-National Force-Iraq” Anymore

[Thanks to Pham Binh, Traveling Soldier & The Military Project, who sent this in.]

July 28, 2009 By ROD NORDLAND and TIMOTHY WILLIAMS, New York Times
[Excerpts]

BAGHDAD — Commanders of the Multi-National Force-Iraq, as the American-led coalition is formally called, have a looming nomenclature problem.

Two days from now, there will no longer be any other nations with troops in Iraq — no “multi” in the Multi-National Force.

[T]he United States is the last of the “coalition of the willing” that the Bush administration first brought together in 2003.

That is partly because the Iraqi Parliament left suddenly for summer recess without voting to extend an agreement for the British military to keep a residual training force of 100 soldiers in Iraq.

As for the other two small remnants of the coalition, the Romanians and Australians, the Australians will be gone by July 31, too, and the Romanians left last Thursday, according to the Romanian chargé d'affaires, Cristian Voicu.

In response to a query, American military officials acknowledged the need for a name change, and said Multi-National Force-Iraq would officially become United States Force-Iraq as of Jan. 1, 2010, according to the deputy coalition spokesman, Lt. Col. Mike Stewart.

BEEN ON THE JOB TOO LONG: COME ON HOME, NOW



May 27, 2009: U.S. soldiers carry saw horses in Camp Carver on the outskirts of Madain, about 15 miles southeast of Baghdad, Iraq. (AP Photo/Hadi Mizban)

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Resistance Attacks Force Of 230 Foreign Occupation Troops In Kapisa;

French Soldier Killed, Two More Wounded: “The Fighting Lasted One And A Half Hours”

8.1.09 by Bronwen Roberts, (AFP)

Around 230 French, US and Afghan troops came under fire in the Kapisa province, northeast of Kabul, while on an operation with Afghan troops, the French military in Afghanistan said in a statement.

"One French soldier was hit and died of the injury. Immediately the troops returned fire and counter-attacked the insurgents," it said.

"The fighting lasted one and a half hours and two other French soldiers were wounded. The insurgents eventually retreated."

Three U.S. Troops Killed By IED Attack On Patrol In Kandahar

8.1.09 by Bronwen Roberts, (AFP)

Three International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) service members were killed today after their patrol was struck by two improvised explosive devices in southern Afghanistan.

US military spokesman in Kabul, Chief Petty Officer Brian Naranjo, said the three were from the US military and had died in the province of Kandahar, the birthplace of the Taliban movement.

Two U.S. Marines Killed In Helmand July 30

August 1, 2009 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 570-09

Lance Cpl. Gregory A. Posey, 22, of Knoxville, Tenn., and Lance Cpl. Jonathan F. Stroud, 20, of Cashion, Okla., died July 30 of wounds suffered while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

Posey was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Stroud was assigned to 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

U.S. Service Member Killed: Deadliest Month For U.S. Troops Since Start Of Afghan Occupation

Jul 31 By Paul Tait (Reuters)

A U.S. service member was killed as the deadliest month for foreign troops in the Afghanistan war drew to a close, the U.S. military said on Friday, with commanders vowing to continue the fight despite the toll.

The death in southern Afghanistan brought to 40 the number of U.S. troops killed in July, by far the heaviest monthly toll in the 8-year-old war.

The worst previous month for U.S. forces was in September 2008, when 26 were killed.

The latest death occurred in a firefight with insurgents in southern Afghanistan on Thursday, the U.S. military said, without giving further details.

At least 70 foreign troops have been killed in July.

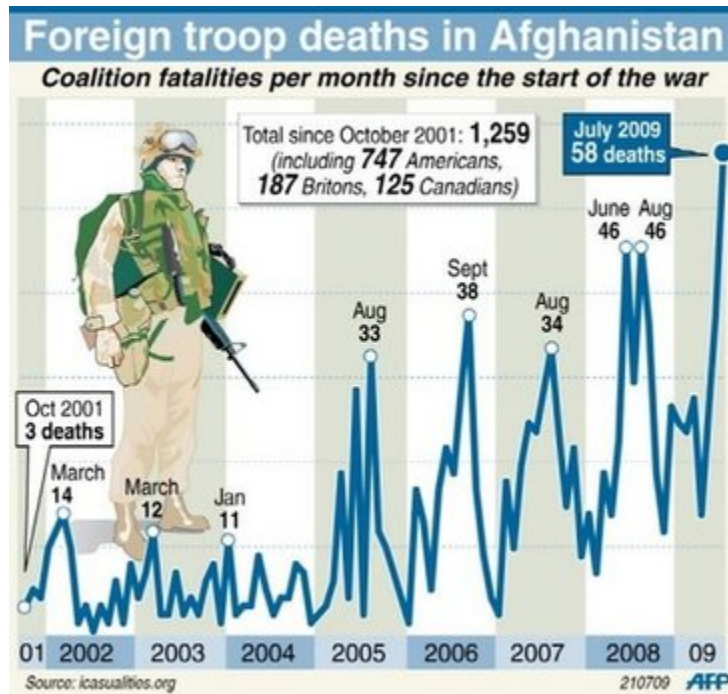
Britain has suffered its worst battlefield casualties since the 1980s Falklands War, with the 22 troops killed in the month taking its total losses in Afghanistan to 191, 12 more than were killed in the Iraq war.

The United States has around 62,000 troops in Afghanistan, out of a total foreign force of about 101,000.

U.S. forces are set to rise to some 68,000 by the end of the year.

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

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



Spring Woods Graduate Killed In Afghanistan



July 23, 2009 By MIKE TOLSON, HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Andrew Roughton had a dream, and it didn't have anything to do with proving his mettle in combat. He wanted to make it on the gridiron, showing that even an undersized nose guard could succeed in college football if he was tough enough.

But when life threw him and his young wife a curve via an unexpected pregnancy, Roughton decided that supporting his family came before football and classwork.

He left his scholarship at Trinity Valley Community College in Athens and joined the Army. The military seemed like the best choice, said his father, Mark Roughton, because it meant stability in the short term and money to continue his college education down the road.

Soon the 2006 graduate of Spring Woods High School, where he was a multi-sport athlete, found himself in the Army enduring basic training at Fort Sill in Oklahoma. A likely tour in Iraq or Afghanistan beckoned, but he never second-guessed his choice to serve his country, not even after his wife suffered a miscarriage, his father said.

On Monday, Roughton and three fellow soldiers were killed in a roadside attack in the Wardak Province in Afghanistan. He was 21.

“He had decided this year that he wanted to make it a career,” Mark Roughton said. “He was supposed to be promoted to corporal soon and then when his tour was over get up to sergeant. Everybody I talked to about it said he loved the military. I’m not exactly sure why, but he did.”

Roughton the soldier is not an image that easily fits into his father's mind. He describes his soon as an easygoing kid who never wanted to hurt anyone.

“If you knew Andrew, he was a cut-up. If you didn't know Andrew, he'd make you his friend. He was just like his mother — if you needed something and asked him, he'd do anything for you,” his father said.

After joining the Army, his nickname became Tuna. It didn't have to do with his 270-pound frame but because of a goofy habit he developed after buying a huge box of canned tuna fish.

“Whenever he went to a friend's house, he would leave an unopened can of tuna fish behind, sometimes in a closet, sometimes in a bathroom. I have no idea why, it was just sort of his signature,” his father said.

Roughton was a gunner in a Humvee in an artillery unit attached to the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, N.Y. Technically, according to the Army, he was a field artillery automated tactical data systems specialist with the 4th Battalion, 25 Field Artillery Regiment. His awards include the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

Besides his father, Roughton is survived by his wife, Heather; stepbrother Marcus Carpenter of Lake Jackson; uncle Curtis Roughton Jr. of Houston; grandfather Curtis Roughton of Rowlett; and grandmother Billie Berecky of Robstown. He was preceded in death by his mother, Karen. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

Freedom High Grad Turned Soldier Killed By Roadside Bomb In Afghanistan

July 24, 2009 By Michael Hasch, TRIBUNE-REVIEW

The flag in the front yard of the rural Beaver County home where Joshua Rimer grew up was flying at half-staff Thursday.

Army Sgt. Joshua Rimer, 24, who was raised in New Sewickley Township, was killed Wednesday by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan, said his father, James H. Rimer.

"They said he was on patrol, escorting a convoy. He's a gunner, on one of their Humvees. ... They got hit by an IED, a roadside bomb, and he got killed," Rimer said while greeting a steady stream of friends and relatives offering their condolences, help and tears.

Rimer and his wife, Donna, said they wish they could see their son one more time.

"I'd just tell him how much I loved him, that I was always proud of him. He never gave us a reason not to be," James Rimer said, crying.

"He was always a stand-up guy, a good person," Donna Rimer said. "Everybody always said he was a wonderful person, very giving. We're going to miss him very much. A part of our family is gone. We were blessed to have him when we had him."

It was the second tour of duty for Rimer, a 2003 graduate of Freedom Area High School, who was wounded five years ago during his first tour in Iraq. He had already made up his mind that twice was enough, his father said.

"After three years, he told me he signed up for another four years. He said he wanted to serve his country and he did. He got married two years ago and told us he was not going to sign up again. He said he and (his wife) AnnaLisa wanted to start a family."

Rimer enlisted soon after graduation.

"He basically went to basic training right out of high school. He got the Purple Heart in 2004 when he was wounded in Iraq. He was the driver of an armored personnel carrier when it got hit by an RPG (rocket-propelled grenade), and he got shrapnel in his neck," his father said.

"He was over there for 14 months, then he was stationed in Germany and came back to the states and was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado."

Rimer and his wife bought a house in Colorado Springs and lived off-base.

"In January, they sent him back to Iraq. He was there for two months before they sent him to Afghanistan," his father said.

Rimer called his mother Saturday, but didn't have a chance to talk with his father. His sister, Shannon, a student at Penn State, turned 21 yesterday.

"He was the best kind of boy you can imagine," James Rimer said while standing on his front porch. "Very polite. Very respectful. He was a good kid, no trouble. The best son to have. He was like a clown, always making everybody laugh. He was a good son and a good husband."

His remains are to be flown today to Dover, Del.

Arrangements are not complete, but James Rimer said his son had said he wanted to be cremated so his ashes could be divided between Colorado and Beaver County.

Two Dutch Soldiers Wounded In Uruzgan

29 July 2009 ANP

Two Dutch soldiers in Uruzgan in Afghanistan have been slightly injured while on foot patrol. The ANP press agency says they were caught in the blast from an improvised bomb in Deh Rashan, north of the provincial capital Tarin Kowt.

The soldiers are in hospital at the Dutch base, Camp Holland.

Foreign Occupation Convoy Ambushed, Helicopter Destroyed

07.29.2009 Dvidshub.net

KABUL, Afghanistan – Earlier this afternoon, a foreign military convoy, in southern Afghanistan, struck an improvised explosive device resulting in the wounding of soldiers. When helicopters arrived to evacuate the wounded soldiers the insurgents opened fire, damaging one of the helicopters.

One helicopter left the scene with all the wounded personnel whilst the damaged helicopter remains on the ground.

Occupation Office Attacked In Herat

Jul 28, 2009 PAN

Five rockets were fired at an office of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Afghanistan (UNAMA), injuring an employee in western Herat province, police said on Tuesday.

A police official told Pajhwok Afghan News that insurgents fired some rockets at the UNAMA office in Guzrah district last night, but most of them missed their targets.

He added a rocket hit the nearby house of an UNAMA employee Naseer Ahmad that injured him.

A rebel commander in Guzrah district, Ghulam Yahya Akbari, claimed responsibility for the rocket attack.

The commander was public work director in the province during the transitional period of the Afghan government after fall of the Taliban.

Since the beginning of this year, it was the second rocket attack on the UNAMA office in the province.

Resistance Action

July 26 (Reuters) & July 28, 2009 By TAIMOOR SHAH and ALAN COWELL, NY Times & Reuters & July 29 (Reuters) & 30 Jul 2009 Reuters & Jul 31 (AFP) & August 1, 2009 By Paul Tait, Reuters & by Bronwen Roberts, (AFP)

A roadside bomb killed two Afghan soldiers and wounded three in southeastern Paktika province on Saturday, the Defence Ministry said.

Two Afghan soldiers were killed in separate attacks in different parts of Kandahar, the Defence Ministry said.

A remote-controlled bomb exploded in the Gereshk district of southern province of Helmand and killed eight and wounded four Afghan contractors in two vehicles escorting a NATO supply convoy on Tuesday, officials said. The Interior Ministry in Kabul said four other guards were wounded when the explosives detonated close to Gereshk in the northern part of Helmand Province. The security guards were in two vehicles on the main highway between Herat and Kandahar. Dawoud Ahmadi, a spokesman for the Helmand provincial authorities, blamed the Taliban.

In a follow-up attack, a roadside bomb killed four more guards working for an Afghan private security company in the Gereshk district of southern Helmand province on Thursday, the Interior Ministry said.

A roadside bomb killed one roadworker and wounded two in the Sharan district of southeastern Paktika province on Monday, the Interior Ministry said.

Militants ambushed a NATO fuel convoy that was being protected by private security guards as it travelled through the western province of Farah, provincial governor Roohullah Amin told AFP. One of the tankers was damaged. Insurgents fired a rocket into the vehicle, causing a massive fire, the official said.

Police reported earlier that insurgents had attacked another NATO supply convoy being guarded by private security in the adjoining province of Herat on Thursday, sparking a battle that lasted into Friday morning.

In the same district, a bomb blew up an Afghan army vehicle killing four soldiers, the governor said. The men, and another three who were hurt, were in a convoy transporting material for the August presidential and provincial council elections.

A roadside bomb killed four Afghan soldiers and wounded two near Yakhchal village in Gereshk on Wednesday, the Defence Ministry said.

A convoy carrying ballot papers was attacked by Taliban fighters in west Afghanistan, said Ruhol Amin, governor of Farah Province. Four Afghan soldiers were killed in the attack.

Insurgents opened fire Saturday on a campaign manager for Afghan President Hamid Karzai's re-election bid, killing a guard in the central province of Ghanzi were believed to be from the Taliban, provincial government spokesman Ismail Jahangir told AFP. They missed their target, Fazil Ahmad, but killed one of his guards and wounded two other people, including a candidate for provincial council elections to run alongside the presidential vote.

Occupation Fuel Supplies Attacked Again, As Usual



A burning tanker carrying fuel for U.S. forces in Afghanistan on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway, east of Kabul August 1, 2009. Two trucks which were carrying fuel were fired at and burned by the Taliban on Saturday. (AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

Well, So Much For That: July 29, 2009



An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) detecting Huskie vehicle from the U.S. Army's Road Clearance Package (RCP) of the 2-12 Infantry, 4th Brigade works on a road in the Kunar River valley in Afghanistan's Kunar Province **July 29, 2009. REUTERS/Tim Wimborne**

July 30, 2009



U.S. soldiers of the 2-12 Infantry, 4th Brigade prepare to tow a broken-down improvised explosive device (IED) detecting Huskie vehicle during a patrol in the Pesh Valley in Afghanistan's Kunar Province **July 30, 2009. REUTERS/Tim Wimborne**

“The Injuries Now Being Sustained By The Troops Are ‘Horrific’”

“Those Who Survive Are Often Left Crippled, Blind Or Brain Damaged”

“Mass Casualty Events Are Now Common”

“British Troops Seriously Wounded In Afghanistan This Year Already Almost As High As The Total For The Whole Of 2008”

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

25 Jul 2009 By Sean Rayment, Defence Correspondent, Telegraph Media Group Limited & 7.30.09 By Channel 4 News & July 31, 2009 Michael Evans, Defence Editor, The Times

The number of British troops seriously wounded in Afghanistan this year is already almost as high as the total for the whole of 2008.

Figures released by the Ministry of Defence have revealed 57 soldiers were severely wounded in action in the first two weeks of July, taking the total to 199 so far this year.

The rate soldiers are being badly wounded in action in Afghanistan has almost doubled in the last year. Alongside the 22 service personnel killed in Afghanistan this month, 16 troops also suffered serious injuries that put their lives at risk.

This time last year troops were being wounded in action at a rate of around one every other day, but in the last six months it has shot up to almost one every day. Since Operation Panther's Claw began there has been a sharp increase in the number of casualties.

So far this year there have been 61 serious and very serious injuries compared 65 for the whole of last year.

The surge in British casualties in Afghanistan has left military surgeons so exhausted that a US surgical team has been drafted in to help.

Speaking from the field hospital in Camp Bastion, Surg Cdr Stapley told The Sunday Telegraph: “The demands are constant. Every day, we usually have a trauma call in the morning, first thing, that is when we are notified a casualty is coming in.

“Casualties are a daily occurrence, sometimes two, three, four times a day.”

The Royal Navy surgeon, who has completed three tours of Iraq and two in Afghanistan, says the injuries now being sustained by the troops are “horrific”.

“The injuries have become more severe than when I was here first, in 2007,” she said.

Mass casualty events are now common.

Surg Cdr Stapley recalls that she worked for 33 hours over a 35-hour period shortly after arriving in Afghanistan five weeks ago. “We were having continuous casualties coming in every few hours and some of those required immediate surgery. Events like that are not unusual here, the time went actually very quickly – you do get use to working long hours.”

Surg Cdr Stapley’s decisions often mean the difference between life and death. If the victim’s limbs are badly damaged, she has to decide, and quickly, whether or not the arm and leg can be saved. “In many cases that decision has already been made for you because you are often dealing with a traumatic amputation,” said the orthopaedic surgeon who joined the Royal Navy in 1987.

Those who survive are often left crippled, blind or brain damaged. Since 2006, 52 servicemen and women have lost one or more limbs, six have been paralysed and another seven have lost the use of one or both eyes.

Obviously: 52% Of British Want Immediate Withdrawal Of Their Troops From Afghanistan

[Thanks to JM, who sent this in.]

July 27 2009 Press Association & July 28, 2009 By TAIMOOR SHAH and ALAN COWELL, NY Times

A survey published in The Independent newspaper on Tuesday said 58 percent of British respondents believed the war was unwinnable and 52 percent wanted the 9,000 British troops there — the second-largest contingent after the United States — to be withdrawn immediately.

More than half of those surveyed (58%) said the Taliban could not be defeated militarily, with only 31% saying they could.

Three-quarters of respondents agreed that British troops in the country lack the equipment they need to take part in the conflict safely. Only 16% disagreed.

But despite this, 60% of people did not think more troops and resources should be dispatched to Afghanistan.

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

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

Roster Of Foreign Occupation Troops In Afghanistan

30 July 2009 REUTERS

Here is a breakdown of current main national deployments in Afghanistan.

Country	Troops
United States	62,000
Britain	9,000
Germany	4,050
France	3,160
Canada	2,800
Italy	2,795
Poland	2,000
Netherlands	1,770
Australia	1,090
Romania	1,025
Spain	780
Turkey	730
Denmark	700
Belgium	510
Norway	485

Bulgaria	470
Sweden	430
Czech Republic	340
Other nations:	2,378

TOTALS: 96,513

Fiendish Afghan Terrorists Disguising Themselves As Flat Dirt Will Not Escape Detection!



A US Marine searches for insurgents in Garmsir district in Helmand province on July 27.
(AFP/Manpreet Romana)

In Pakistan, Rich Landowners Fear The Taliban:

**“A Strategy Intended To Foment A
Class Struggle”**

**“Top Taliban Leadership Taking Aim At
The Landlords And Spreading The Spoils
Among The Landless”**

“If the large landowners are kept out by the Taliban, the result will in effect be property redistribution,” Mr. Nasr said. “That will create a vested community of support for the Taliban that will see benefit in the absence of landlords.”

July 27, 2009 By JANE PERLEZ and PIR ZUBAIR SHAH, New York Times [Excerpts]

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Even as hundreds of thousands of people stream back to the Swat Valley after months of fighting, one important group is conspicuously absent: the wealthy landowners who fled the Taliban in fear.

About four dozen landlords were singled out over the past two years by the militants in a strategy intended to foment a class struggle.

In some areas, the Taliban rewarded the landless peasants with profits of the crops of the landlords. Some resentful peasants even signed up as the Taliban’s shock troops.

In those regions, the Taliban have razed houses, killed a civilian working for the police in Matta and captured another, worrying counterinsurgency experts, who fear that the refugees may have been encouraged by the Pakistani authorities to go back too soon.

The landlords, many of whom raised sizable militias to fight the Taliban themselves last year, say the army is again failing to provide enough protection if they return.

Another deterrent to returning, they say, is that the top Taliban leadership, responsible for taking aim at the landlords and spreading the spoils among the landless, remains unscathed.

If it continues, the landlords’ absence will have lasting ramifications not only for Swat, but also for Pakistan’s most populated province, Punjab, where the landholdings are vast, and the militants are gaining power, said Vali Nasr, a senior adviser to Mr. Holbrooke, the American envoy.

“If the large landowners are kept out by the Taliban, the result will in effect be property redistribution,” Mr. Nasr said. “That will create a vested community of support for the Taliban that will see benefit in the absence of landlords.”

At two major meetings with the landlords, the Pakistani military and civilian authorities requested that they return in the vanguard of the refugees. None have agreed to do so, according to several of the landowners and a senior army officer.

“We have sacrificed so much; what has the government and the military done for us?” asked Sher Shah Khan, a landholder in the Kuz Bandai area of Swat. He is now living with 50 family members in a rented house about 60 miles from Swat. Four family members and eight servants were killed trying to fight off the Taliban, he said.

Twenty of his houses were blown up by the Taliban after the army ordered him and his family to leave their lands on two hours’ notice last September, he said.

A letter he sent last month to Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, the head of the Pakistani military, asking for compensation has gone unanswered, he said.

In the meantime, one of his tenants called asking if he could plant crops on Mr. Khan's property. He refused but had little idea what was happening back home, Mr. Khan said.

Other landlords are equally frustrated.

The mayor of Swat, Jamal Nasir, fled after his father, Shujaat Ali Khan, regarded as the biggest landlord in Swat, narrowly avoided being killed by the Taliban. Mr. Nasir, a major landowner himself, now stays in his house in Islamabad.

The top guns of the Taliban are still in Swat, or perhaps in neighboring Dir, Mr. Nasir said. "These people should be arrested," he said.

"If they are not arrested, they are going to come back."

ENOUGH OF THIS POINTLESS SHIT; ALL HOME NOW



10th Mountain Division soldiers at Blackhawk Combat Outpost in the Nerkh district of Wardak province, Afghanistan, April 30, 2009. (AP Photo/Rafiq Maqbool)

TROOP NEWS

**NOT ANOTHER DAY
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR**

NOT ANOTHER LIE NOT ANOTHER LIFE



The remains of Army Spc. Carlos E. Wilcox, Army Spc. James David Wertish and Army Spc. Daniel Paul Drevneck July 18, 2009 at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Wilcox, 27, of Cottage Grove, Minn., Wertish, 20, of Olivia, Minn., and Drevnick, 22, of Woodbury, Minn. died July 16 in Basra, Iraq of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked their unit. (AP Photo/Steve Ruark)

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

<p>“Hope for change doesn't cut it when you're still losing buddies.” -- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War</p>

The Return

From: Dennis Serdel
To: GI Special
Sent: July 30, 2009
Subject: The Return

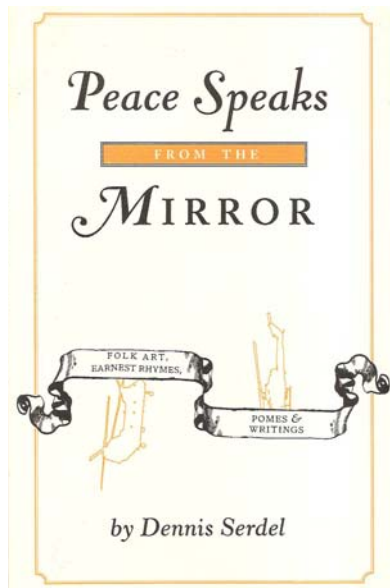
By Dennis Serdel, Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade, purple heart, Veterans For Peace 50 Michigan, Vietnam Veterans Against The War, United Auto Workers GM Retiree, in Perry, Michigan

The Return

**The Rich start and have their Wars
so they can sit in Vienna at a Mozart Concert
she in her multi-thousand dollar
black sequenced dress and her husband in a tux.
Others sit in a posh Cafe in Paris
sipping caffe lattes wearing the champagne
fog off of their brains from
the party life last night
But in America Tony drives down
a country road with a black net
over him that ruins the sky
even the trees and green fields are owned
by Bankers left for someone else to farm
Tony returned from Iraq after multi-Tours
he didn't want his fellow Soldiers
to see him this way and his best buddy
Tom says he understands as Tony
wants to get out of this painful**

worthless trap of existence they call life
Tony can not enjoy anything since
he returned from the War with a
handful of pills to be free although
most of the Soldiers understand
some can't make the transition home
The Rich have made life unbearable
in War or at Home by killing over-working
robbing the human race
but they themselves are not humane
they are animals with evil money eyes
dressed in expensive cloths in a high life
that should not be looked up to
An old woman on a yacht motions for
her young deck boy to follow her down
because her husband is away
on the business of exploiting people
not caring how they live or die just so
he can live the Rich lifestyle as he has
his love affair with a younger woman
Tony drives to the big City pulls the trigger
rejects life shoots the Rich man in the head
returns to black throws the wiped down gun down
driving back home into the night as
the stars and planets start to shine
it made him stop thinking about killing himself
and he knew the guys back at Fort Carson
would be proud of him

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August 1, 1944: Dishonorable Anniversary; Stalin's Russian Empire Betrays The Polish Resistance Movement And Helps Hitler Destroy It

Carl Bunin Peace History July 30-Aug 5

The Polish Underground Army began its battle to liberate Warsaw, the first European city to have fallen to the Germans in World War II.

[BBC.co.uk/onthisday:](http://BBC.co.uk/onthisday)

The battle for control of Warsaw lasted 63 days and ended with surrender by the Poles on 3 October 1944.

A German counter-offensive began on 5 August 1944. Orders were given to round up civilians and shoot them. Women were used as human shields for the German tanks.

During the uprising, the civilian population of Warsaw was kept in touch with newspapers published mostly by the Home Army and a local radio station.

General Bor had planned for the liberation of Warsaw to take about a week. But he received no help from the Soviets, who ceased their offensive towards the capital.

They also refused to allow the Allies to use Soviet bases to take-off and land. So the pilots were forced, instead, to fly up from Italy. Without fighter escorts many were lost and many of their supplies ended up in the wrong hands.

Final casualties were over 15,000 dead or missing, 5,000 wounded, and 200,000 Polish civilians dead. On the German side there were an estimated 16,000 dead and 9,000 wounded.

[Although close enough to come to the aid of the Polish Resistance, Stalin ordered the Russian Army to do nothing for weeks so the Nazis could wipe out the Polish resistance. The last things Russian imperialists wanted was a fighting force in Poland able to stand up to the occupation of Poland by Stalin's Russian empire. T]

[From the BBC, 1944:]

“To the north of the city, Soviet troops are advancing north-westward to Warsaw, with the River Vistula on their left flank.

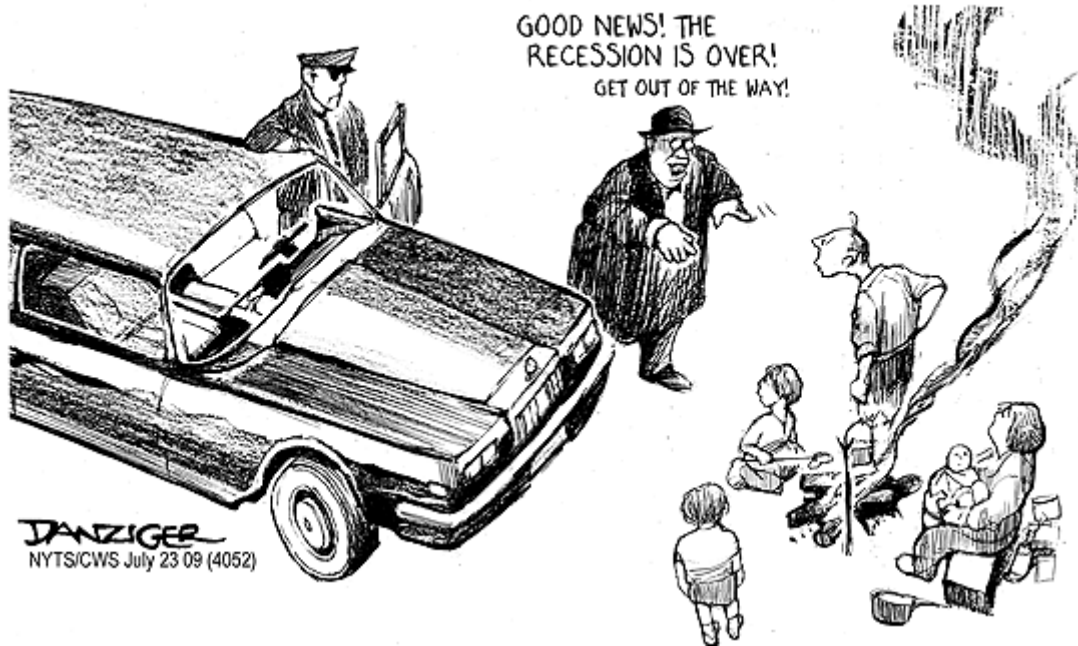
“Soviet troops are now said to be fighting within 10-12 miles of Praga, the suburb on Warsaw's right bank.”

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS

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Korean Labor Federation Calls Two Day General Strike To Support Laid-Off Auto Workers; Action “Follows A Series Of Heavy-Handed Attacks By Riot Police On Unionised Members Of The Ssangyong Motors Workforce”

July 22, 2009 & July 24, 2009 Morning Star

South Korean trade unions kicked off a two-day general strike on July 22 in support of striking Ssangyong workers who have occupied a Pyeongtaek car factory for more than two months.

The 700,000-strong Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) reported that "all affiliated unions" supported the action yesterday, which follows a series of heavy-handed attacks by riot police on unionised members of the Ssangyong Motors workforce.

The KCTU leadership has also launched a hunger strike and sit-in protest in front of the National Assembly in Seoul. Some 800 Ssangyong workers have been occupying the Pyeongtaek facility since May, when management announced that it would axe 2646 workers -- 36 per cent of the workforce -- as part of a "restructuring plan" at the Chinese-owned plant.

Management has blocked all food from entering the factory and the trade unionists are reportedly surviving on three or four rice balls a day. Bosses have prevented doctors and nurses from entering the compound, then on July 20, more than 3000 riot police backed by around 30 vehicles mounted with water cannon stormed the factory compound, with creditors brandishing an eviction order in tow.

The combined forces failed to dislodge workers, who holed up in the plant's paint shop. On July 23, police began dropping vats of tear gas from helicopters onto the workers and huge speakers have been installed near the occupied building, blaring messages calling on them to leave.

Around 100 police commandos are reportedly on standby for a possible raid. As yet there have been no hand-to-hand clashes, but 16 people, including five policemen, have been injured so far.

The KCTU observed in a statement that police and management "have embarked upon a joint operation to break the strike", warning that the "police suppression symbolises further catastrophe rather than any attempts to solve the crisis of Ssangyong Motors."

It declared that the strike must "continue strongly and indefatigably, despite whatever sacrifice and pain that may come in our way," adding: "This July battle will decide the fate of workers."

The strike and factory occupation by workers at Ssangyong, in Pyeongtaek near Seoul, South Korea, is about to enter its eighth week. About 800 fired employees are in a paint shop, confronting more than 3000 police.

Bosses claim the occupation has caused production losses of about 10,800 vehicles worth 230 billion won (US\$183 million) as of July 15.

Ssangyong plans to eliminate 36 per cent of its workforce to return to profit and meet a September 15 court deadline to submit a restructuring plan to avoid liquidation. Ssangyong Motors is 51% owned by China's Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation.

Following industrial action in anticipation of the layoffs, the workers launched their current strike on May 27 when the company announced the layoffs and forced retirement of 2600 out of 7000 workers, with immediate additional sackings of 300 casuals.

The workers slated for layoff immediately occupied the plant, demanding no layoffs, no casualisation and no outsourcing. The Korean Metal Workers Union (KMWU) supported the occupation but tried to channel negotiations strictly around the question of layoffs.

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