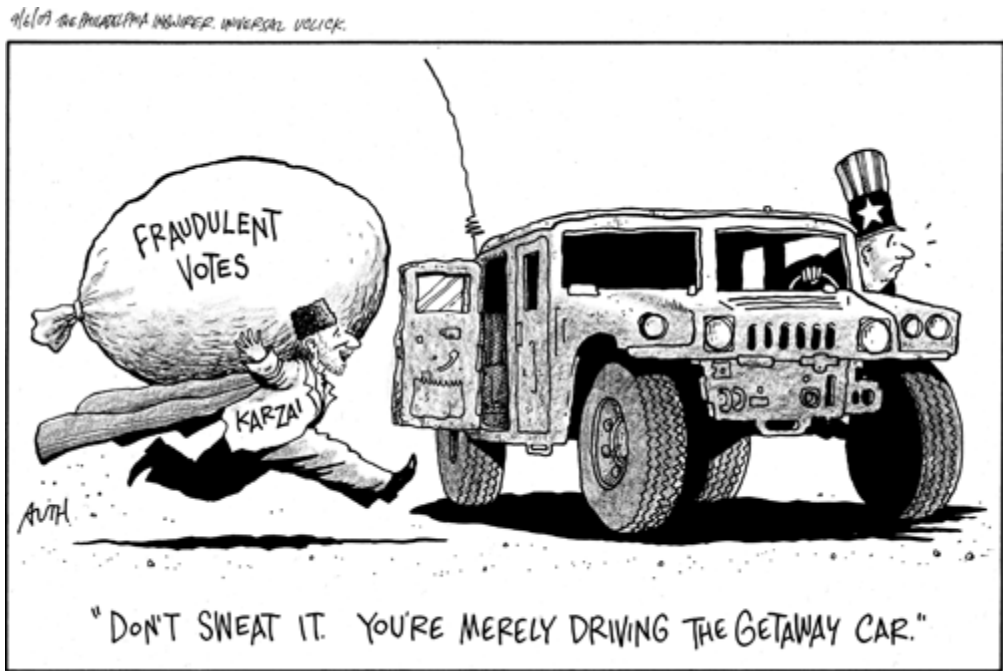


**Military Resistance: 7/10:**  
**[Formerly GI Special]**



# The Sun

From: Dennis Serdel  
To: GI Special  
Sent: September 24, 2009  
Subject: The Sun

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; Military Resistance

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Sun

**They fired their cannons  
and one into the sun  
but they heard the mother ask  
was he brave in battle**

did he fight or run  
They were all surrounded  
in a jungle made of death  
he was in the last to fall  
with mother on his lips  
then there was a whisper  
she's just a whore for war  
She said she knew  
he would not make it  
he was just a farm boy  
a dummy with a gun  
he killed so many pheasants  
they let the chickens live  
She was glad when he was drafted  
one less mouth to feed  
His brothers were not drafted  
they had to work there on the farm  
They had no money for a gravestone  
so the Army gave him one  
and every Memorial Day  
they'd stick a flag into his ass  
His father died after that  
he had cancer through and through  
the kids said it was the doctor's fault  
he was laid next to his boy  
with a little stone  
his name the same  
circling the sun  
as the war keeps going  
going on and on

**MORE:**

**MORE OF DENNIS SERDEL'S WORK IN *PEACE SPEAKS FROM THE MIRROR:*  
**Get Some While There Still Are Some To Get:****

[You know the power of the poems by Dennis Serdel from the front pages of GI  
Special: now they're in book form:

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By DENNIS SERDEL:

Shipped to Vietnam in November 1967.

Returned home in October 1968 to Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Joined Veterans For Peace in January 1990.

Joined Vietnam Veterans Against the War when Iraq and Afghanistan War started.

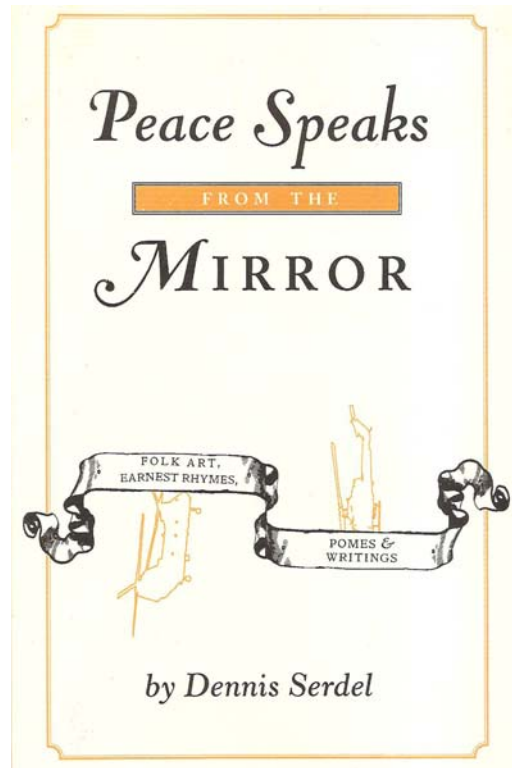
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From: Dennis Serdel

339 Oakwood Lane  
Perry,  
Michigan 48872



**Walt Whitman  
Carl Sandburg  
Allan Ginsberg  
Now: Dennis Serdel**

## **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: 888.711.2550

## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

# Delaware Soldier One Of Three Killed In Tuesday's Attack



September 12, 2009 By LIZ ROBERTSON, Delaware Gazette

A Delaware family is grieving from news no parent wants to hear.

Zachary Taylor Myers, a 2006 graduate of Delaware Hayes High School, was killed in action in Iraq Tuesday when his convoy was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. A Marion County resident, Shannon Smith, was killed in the same attack.

Myers' mother, Tonya Latto, said her son was returning from a mission and traveling between Tikrit and Baji when the convoy was hit. Three died immediately; Myers was wounded but died soon after.

Latto said Myers and Smith were "best of friends." Both were military police serving in 545 MP Company 607th battalion stationed out of Fort Richardson, Alaska.

Just 21, with his 22nd birthday to be on Sept. 23, Myers had only been in the service for 18 months, and in Iraq since June. He was to return to Delaware on Saturday on leave. Instead, his family will mourn his loss during a ceremony at 4:30 p.m. Saturday at the Ohio Fallen Heroes Memorial in Sunbury.

"He wanted to do the right thing," Latto said of her son's decision to marry and join the Army to provide for a young daughter. "He was a good kid, very creative. A sensitive young man. And an avid motorcyclist."

Myers sense of duty extended beyond his family, Latto said. He viewed going to Iraq as his duty and the "right thing to do," she said.

Latto said the family is working with and has received tremendous support from the U.S. Army.

"They have been wonderful," she said.

All military fallen heroes return home through Dover Air Force Base.

“They handle every body,” Latto said, adding that the military provides transportation to and accommodations at Dover. The family worked with 10 chaplains and were assigned a casualty assistant who was with them every step of the way.

Arriving at Dover Thursday morning to participate in their son’s ceremonial return to the U.S., Latto said the family learned that eight bodies, representing every branch of service, returned home at the same time. “We were told this had never happened before,” she said.

Funeral services for Myers are pending as the military is still conducting an investigation of the incident and will release his body once the investigation is concluded.

Delaware Vice-Mayor Carolyn Riggle said she hopes to organize a tribute for the fallen soldier to coincide with his arrival back in Delaware. Specifics about the tribute are pending the military’s release of the body.

Details will be printed in the Gazette as they become available.

**Myers is the third soldier from Delaware County killed in action in Iraq. Justin Hoffman, of Delaware, and Anthony Kinslow, of Genoa Township, both were killed in 2005.**

In addition to his parents, Latto and Jerry and (Penny) Myers, Myers is survived by his wife, Megan, of Westerville; his 14-month-old daughter, Rowen Neyla; two brothers, Jeff (Bobbi) Price and Ryan Myers; maternal grandparents, James (Lona) Mooney; maternal great-grandmother, Freida Leonard; paternal grandmothers, Beulah Myers; and dozens of aunts uncles and scores of friends.

He was preceded in death by a grandfather, Jack Myers.

“We are so at peace seeing his body brought back to American soil,” Latto said. “We were very proud of him.”

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## Resistance Action



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

Sept 19 (Reuters) & Sept 23 (Reuters) & Sept 24 (Reuters) & Sept 25 (Reuters)

Insurgents shot dead an off duty policeman in central Mosul, police said.

A roadside bomb killed three soldiers when it exploded near their patrol in western Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb killed one policeman and wounded another when it struck their patrol in western Mosul, police said.

Two police were killed in an attack at a checkpoint in a crowded section of downtown Mosul, police said. Mosul is 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad.

Insurgents killed a policeman in his home in western Mosul, police said.

Insurgents attacked an Iraqi army checkpoint and killed one soldier and wounded another in western Mosul on Thursday, police said.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

# **Five More U.S. Troops Killed In Afghanistan**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 Associated Press

Five American troops were killed within 24 hours in southern Afghanistan, where Taliban militants have conducted an unrelenting campaign of bombings and attacks against U.S. and NATO forces.

Four soldiers died in the same small district of southeastern Zabul province, three of them killed when their Stryker vehicle hit a bomb, and the fourth shot to death in an insurgent attack, said U.S. military spokesman Lt. Robert Carr. The Stryker brigade arrived in Zabul as part of the summertime surge to try to secure the region ahead of Afghanistan's Aug. 20 presidential election.

Meanwhile, a U.S. Marine was fatally shot while on foot patrol in southwestern Nimroz province, said Capt. Elizabeth Mathias, a military spokeswoman.

**The light-armored Stryker vehicles were sent to Afghanistan as part of a plan to take over a large swathe of the south. The idea behind the vehicles is that they can deploy quickly over large distances, exercising control over a much larger area than can be held by foot soldiers.**

**However, they are more vulnerable to roadside bombs than more heavily armored vehicles.**

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# **Stanislaus County Navy Corpsman Dies In Battle: “He Was Among Four Marines Killed In An Ambush”**



Modesto Bee - Petty Officer 3rd Class James R. Layton, Navy Corpsman, was among four Americans killed Tuesday in an ambush in a rugged section of Afghanistan. Photo: Bart Ah You

Sep. 11, 2009 By KEN CARLSON, The Modesto Bee

Navy Corpsman James Layton of Riverbank was killed Tuesday in Afghanistan as he tended to a wounded soldier during a firefight.

Layton, a 22-year-old petty officer 3rd class, was with a training team supporting Afghan troops in eastern Kunar Province, close to the Pakistan border. He was among four Marines killed in an ambush depicted in a McClatchy story Wednesday.

About 100 Afghan soldiers, border officers, Marines and U.S. Army trainers were pinned down as insurgents unleashed a barrage of gunfire and rockets.

Layton was bending over a Marine lieutenant, tending to his wounds, when both were killed.

“He’s a hero -- we are very proud of him,” said Kathy Anderson, Layton’s grandmother from Dallas, who traveled to Riverbank to grieve with the family.

Military officials notified the family of his death Tuesday.

Layton's younger sister, Jordan, filled one wall of her bedroom with photos of her brother's life, from childhood to his enlistment in the Navy. Family members planned to honor Layton by getting tattoos, an image of an anchor with the dates Jan. 29, 1987, to Sept. 8, 2009.

Word of his death saddened the small staff at Vista High School in Escalon, where Layton attended classes to earn a diploma in 2005.

He enlisted in the Navy two years ago, following in the path of his grandfather, the late Ray Hughes of Escalon, a Korean War veteran.

Layton was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, to train with a Marine Corps unit for a mission with Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He had been in Afghanistan for about two months, said his mother Nikki Freitas. She last talked with him by phone two weeks ago.

"He said he was bored, waiting for his orders," Freitas said.

"He wanted to be out doing what they sent him there to do. He liked the camaraderie. He said he might not come home at Christmas because he didn't want to leave the other guys there." The grief-stricken family members said they were proud to hear he died assisting a wounded soldier in the line of fire.

Layton and the three other Marines were at the front of a column heading on foot into the small village of Ganjigal.

They were on a training mission with Afghan forces who were to search the village for weapons and then meet village elders under an agreement to establish government authority there. Insurgent forces had set up positions in the village and in the mountains on either side and attacked as the men reached the first compound.

Layton evidently had been giving medical aid when he and the wounded Marine -- Lt. Michael Johnson of Virginia Beach, Va. -- came under fierce attack, Marine Cpl. Dakota Meyer of Greensburg, Ky. told McClatchy Newspapers.

He and others said they found wrappings of bandages and other medical gear strewn around Layton and the fallen Marine.

The two other Marines killed in action were gunnery Sgt. Edwin Johnson, Jr. of Columbus, Ga., and Staff Sgt. Aaron Kenefick of Roswell, Ga.

A McClatchy reporter, embedded with the Marine unit, was farther back in the column, about 250 yards from the front when the ambush began.

Eight Afghan soldiers and border officers and an Afghan interpreter also died in the attack. Three Americans and 19 Afghans were wounded.

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# Marine, A Graduate Of Judson, Is Killed



Lance Cpl. Christopher Baltazar: Courtesy photo

09/05/2009 By Scott Huddleston - Express-News

In high school, Christopher Baltazar favored getting dirty and sweaty in the field over the spit-and-polish look that Junior ROTC students push themselves to achieve.

So it wasn't a surprise to any of his friends that he joined the Marines after graduating last year from Judson High School.

The Judson community now is reeling over the news from Afghanistan. His family learned late Thursday that he died after stepping on a pressure-activated explosive.

Retired Air Force Lt. Col. James Grace, senior aerospace science instructor at Judson, remembered Baltazar, 19, as a quiet, respectful young man who seemed more comfortable in camouflage than a military dress uniform.

Using a compass and map, Baltazar and his JROTC orienteering team from Judson would compete against other schools in timed land-navigation drills at Camp Bullis. They would run virtually the whole time through a rugged course extending at least a mile or two, Grace said.

"He was more into the idea of getting out there and being a hardcore military guy," he said.

Judson officials decided to honor Baltazar with a moment of silence at Friday night's football game against Smithson Valley.

Baltazar is the third San Antonian killed in Afghanistan in less than a month. Marine Lance Cpl. Travis Babine, who died Aug. 6 in Farah province, and Army Staff Sgt. Clayton P. Bowen, who died Aug. 18 in Paktika province, also were killed by improvised explosives.

Brendon Baltazar told his brother he loved him the last time the young Marine called on his satellite phone from Afghanistan, about two weeks ago. Having been raised by a mother who had deployed several times, including once to Iraq, the two had a habit of saying "I love you" each time they spoke.

"In a military family, you just don't want to send anyone away without hearing that," said Baltazar, 18.

Christopher Shawn Baltazar Jr. would've turned 20 on Sept. 23. He was strong-willed, like his mother, Army Staff Sgt. Beatriz Alberts, who works at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, his brother said.

But he also had a sense of humor that came naturally. He listed "Scrubs" as his favorite television show on his MySpace page. "Dogs, snakes and Marines" were his animals of choice.

"There's never been anyone else on this planet who I could not be angry at," his brother said. "If he poked me with a stick, I'd curse at him, and laugh at him at the same time."

Baltazar also had a sister and two stepbrothers, his brother said.

Will Weber, 19, said Baltazar was one of his closest friends growing up. They shared boyhood adventures, riding bikes and playing football and baseball together in the Sunrise neighborhood on the Northeast Side.

Baltazar, a native of New York state, was new to San Antonio when they met in sixth grade. They later were in the youth group together at Cornerstone Church, Weber said.

"He was always a real funny, joyful, happy person," he said. "He was so excited about being a Marine. He believed in honor and serving his country."

Arrangements are pending for a local funeral and burial at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

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## Snyder Staff Sgt. Killed In Afghanistan Attack



Army Staff Sgt. Michael Murphrey

September 09, 2009 By Logan G. Carver, AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

A Snyder Staff Sgt. died Sunday in Afghanistan nearly eight years to the day terrorist attacks inspired him to military service, the Department of Defense reported Tuesday.

Army Staff Sgt. Michael Chance Murphrey, 25, was killed Sunday in the Paktika province of Afghanistan after enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

The September 11 attacks inspired him to enlist in the U.S. Army, said Jeanie Rutherford, his oldest sister.

He joined shortly after he graduated Snyder High School in 2003.

“He knew what he signed up for and he knew what he was going to do,” said Rutherford, who lives in Clyde. “And he knew the sacrifice that it would be.”

His family struggled for words on Wednesday as they described a dedicated family man and soldier and waited for his body to return home.

“He knew how proud we were of him,” Rutherford said. “He knew how much he was loved.”

Rutherford said her brother was a laid-back, easy-going guy who loved his wife, his two children and the men he commanded.

“He admired those guys. He loved those soldiers,” Rutherford said. “He protected them before he thought about himself.”

Murphrey enjoyed hunting, fishing and motorcycles — pretty much anything outside, Rutherford said.

She said he pushed himself to excel at anything he attempted.

Most recently, Murphrey showed off his newly acquired acoustic guitar skills while home for 18 days in July. Rutherford said Murphrey and some other guys in Afghanistan had decided to learn acoustic guitar.

“That was just the...funniest thing,” Rutherford said.

Rutherford's husband, Adam Rutherford, said Murphrey was a great man with a free spirit.

“He was fun to be around,” Adam Rutherford said. “He'd give the shirt off his back for you, he'd help you do anything.”

Murphrey's high school coach remembered him as a proud athlete that could always be counted on. “He was an outstanding young man, he always had a grin on his face,” Snyder High School coach Chad Rogers said.

He had “one of those kind of mischievous grins, but one of those grins that kind of made you love him, too.”

Murphrey was a freshman when Rogers first started coaching at Snyder and made the varsity track team his first year. Murphrey ran hurdles and the 400 meter dash and was a major part of winning the Frenship Relays, Rogers said.

“He was a great teammate and a great friend,” he said.

He also played varsity football for three years, Rogers said.

Many of the Snyder coaches knew Murphrey as a student-athlete, and Rogers said the news of Murphrey’s death hit hard.

“It’s a tragic loss, I just don’t know how else to explain it,” Rogers said. “We’re very proud of him.”

Funeral services are pending, but will be held in Clyde, Texas.

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## Western New York Native Aaron Kenefick Dies in Battle



Sep 9, 2009 WKBW-TV 7

“I feel like everyone should know who my brother Aaron was. He was a hero,” said sister Jade Myszka.

A hero, who was in Afghanistan, even though he didn’t have to be. Aaron Kenefick had been in the military for 12 years, and volunteered to go on this latest mission. No surprise to his two sisters and brother in law.

“He was just very strong in going over there and doing his job,” said sister Jacque Tiftickjain.

“He was not going to be with the majority of troops. They were going to be on the front lines the whole time,” said brother-in-law Kevin Myszka.

This past weekend Aaron was hit by shrapnel. He survived and received the purple heart. His sister spoke to him as he recovered from those shrapnel wounds.

“He called me and wanted us to know that he was okay, and that sandbags saved his life, and that he loved us very much. I told him we were praying for him,” added Jade.

Aaron, in typical fashion, went right back out on his next mission. Two days later, his mother was at work, when two marines came. Her only son had died in an ambush.

“This is my worst nightmare. To lose a child,” said his mother Susan Price.

Aaron went to the Williamsville schools, and moved to Atlanta during high school before joining the military. It turned into an honored 12 year career. Marine of the year twice, and an attendee for President Bush at the Republican National Convention a few years back.

“From the moment he was born he was an amazing man,” said his sister Jacque.

While many of his comrades looked up to him, so did his family. His nieces will grow up now hearing the stories about their uncle. And a mother will never forget that special son

“My son was always my hero, and just always the most honorable man,” added his mother.

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## **Orlando Soldier Sgt. Randy M. Haney Killed In Afghanistan**

September 8, 2009 Susan Jacobson, Sentinel Staff Writer

Sgt. Randy Haney loved to clown around. His official U.S. Army photo shows Haney, eyes wide, goofing for the camera.

But the former Central Florida man also had a serious side. He joined the military when he was 20, married his high-school sweetheart, bought a house for his family and was a devoted father of two young children.

Haney, 27, was on his third tour of duty in the Middle East when his convoy was attacked early Sunday in Nangarhar Province in eastern Afghanistan. Sitting in the back of a Humvee at the rear of the convoy, he was killed instantly when enemy forces with guns and rocket-propelled grenades unleashed the ambush.

His mother, Amanda Macy, said Haney put himself unofficially in charge of bolstering morale in his unit. And when he got a care package from home, the candy went to Afghan children. “He was very proud of the fact that he helped people and that he was

serving his country,” added his mother-in-law, Cindy Alexopoulos of south Orange County. “He cared a lot about the kids and trying to help people who were there.”

Born in Bartow, Haney lived in Wauchula and Haines City before moving to south Orange County during high school, his mother said. She last saw her son on Memorial Day weekend, just before he left for Afghanistan. During the visit, the two registered Haney’s daughter, Aubry, 5, for kindergarten. “That was special,” said Macy, of Troy, Ohio.

Haney met his wife, Katie, in an English class at Cypress Creek High School in early 1999, and the two quickly became best friends, Alexopoulos said. Katie Haney was a cheerleader who was smitten after seeing her future husband run up a wall and flip over.

“That was Randy,” said Alexopoulos, who was with her daughter at the couple’s Colorado home Monday night. “He liked to kid around.

“He had a very good sense of humor.”

The Haney’s were married at Sheraton Vistana Resort in November 2002, lived in Kissimmee and moved to Alaska when Randy Haney joined the service.

After getting his General Educational Development certificate, he was frustrated by a lack of good local jobs and hoped the military would provide stability, his mother said.

After tours of duty in Afghanistan from 2005 to 2006 and this year and Iraq from 2007 to 2008, he was ready to return to civilian life, Alexopoulos said. “I think the military helped him with that responsibility and helped him to be a mature person,” she said.

Haney was a military police officer with the 2nd Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo., when he died.

He is one of more than 800 American military personnel killed during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. More than 4,300 have died in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In March, Haney and his wife bought a town house near Colorado Springs, where Katie Haney is studying to be a nurse. About a week ago, Haney sent her two cards thanking her for taking on all the responsibilities at home, including raising their daughter and son, Austin, who is 18 months old.

The couple talked by phone every few days, the last time on Thursday about midnight.

Haney’s other love was his car, a souped-up Honda Civic that he repeatedly took apart and reassembled, Alexopoulos said.

He also had a passion for tae kwon do, which he had studied along with capoeira, a Brazilian martial art.

Haney had an uncle, Keith Haney of Ohio, who was killed at 20 by a sniper during his last tour of duty in Vietnam in 1970, Macy said.

Randy Haney also is survived by several siblings and a grandmother. Melcher-Sowers Funeral Home in Piqua, Ohio, is handling arrangements.

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## Local Hero Falls In Afghanistan

September 6, 2009 By Christopher Behnan, DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

A 2006 Howell High School graduate and U.S. Navy hospitalman was killed Thursday while serving in Afghanistan, reportedly as the result of an improvised explosive device.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Ben Castiglione was killed just one day after speaking with his family about returning home from his deployment in late November and pursuing career plans, Ben Castiglione's family said Friday.

Family members said they were informed by Navy personnel Thursday that Ben Castiglione died following the IED explosion.

He is believed to have been stationed in Helmand province, where other news outlets reported the death of at least one British soldier around the same time as Ben Castiglione's death.

He was profiled in a February edition of the Daily Press & Argus for his bravery in attending to fellow servicemembers and civilians.

On Wednesday, he told family members he was excited he would be coming home around Thanksgiving and moving out of the increasingly violent war zone into safer territory, possibly to Germany, his father said.

His mother, Carrie Castiglione, said her son had his eye on studying to become a physician's assistant once his military duty was complete.

"We talked about the stuff that we were going to do. He was making plans for his duty station when he got done there, and had a lot of options in terms of going to Europe or Hawaii and whatever he was going to do," she said.

A hospitalman is to the Navy what a medic is to the Army. Because the Marine Corps is a component of the U.S. Department of the Navy, Marines pull their medical personnel from the Navy to treat wounded Marines in the field.

His friends and family are remembering him as someone dedicated to saving the lives of others.

Ben Castiglione had choice words for a Marine unit leaving Camp Lejeune, N.C., for a deployment when his father, Joel Castiglione, was visiting.

"You tell your commander to take good care of you or I'm going to kick his a—," Carrie Castiglione said, repeating her son's words. "That's the kind of guy he was."

“Those Marines meant the world to him, and I talked to him before he went to Iraq about preparing himself for losing one if he had to. He said, ‘Mom, I’m bringing all those guys home,’” she added.

The Web site [www.corpsman.com](http://www.corpsman.com) planned to tape an online memorial for Ben Castiglione Friday night.

Ben Castiglione joined the Navy as a Marine fleet force corpsman on Halloween 2006.

He was recently awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for superior performance of duties during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

U.S. Marine Corps Col. R.E. Smith, Ben Castiglione’s commanding officer at the time, cited two specific incidents in the commendation — one in which Ben Castiglione treated two Iraqi civilians who sustained broken bones and lacerations following an automobile accident, and another where Castiglione treated an unconscious Marine suffering heart palpitations and troubled breathing due to a scorpion sting.

“Hospitalman Castiglione’s initiative, perseverance and total dedication to duty reflected credit on him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and United States Naval Service,” Smith wrote in the certificate that accompanied the medal.

In an e-mail to the Daily Press & Argus at the time, Ben Castiglione didn’t play a hero.

“I definitely do not feel like any type of hero,” he wrote from Camp Lejeune.

“Many Marines and corpsman did great things on our deployment, and — this sounds cliché — but I was just doing my job,” he added.

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## **U.S. Soldier Wounded In Nimroz**

Sept. 25 (Xinhua)

A clash between militants and security forces claimed the lives of three Taliban fighters in the western Nimroz province, provincial governor Ghulam Dastgir Azad said Friday.

“The rebels attacked security forces in Dilaram district Thursday evening and the troops returned fire, as a result three Taliban fighters were killed,” Azad told Xinhua.

An American soldier also sustained injuries in the firefight, which lasted for a few hours, the official added.

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# **810 IED Incidents In August Compared With 420 During The Same Month In 2008: “30 Percent Were Effective — Which Means The Bomb Resulted In Casualties Or Loss Of Equipment”**

9.21.09 By Michelle Tan, Army Times [Excerpts]

The U.S. military is taking a multi-pronged approach to battling the rising threat of improvised explosive devices in Afghanistan, particularly in the southern part of the country.

“We’ve basically seen the number of IEDs double over a one-year period,” said Rear Adm. Michael Tillotson, the deputy J-3 for CentCom. “But ... we’ve put a lot more forces out there also.”

There were 810 IED incidents there in August compared with 420 during the same month in 2008.

He added that about 50 percent of the IEDs are encountered in Regional Command-South, where the U.S. recently has dedicated thousands of additional troops, including the 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, and the 82nd Airborne Division’s 4th Brigade Combat Team.

“We are focused in RC-South because that is one of the places where the insurgency is the strongest,” Tillotson said. “The highest level of violence is in RC-East and RC-South.”

About 38 percent of the bombs were encountered in eastern Afghanistan, 4 percent in the north and 8 percent in the west, he said. Improvised explosive devices remain the largest killer of U.S. troops in Afghanistan even though more than half of the IEDs encountered are found and cleared before they have the chance to explode, a top Central Command official said Sept. 18.

Of the IED incidents, 51 per-cent of the bombs were found and cleared, about 30 percent were effective — which means the bomb resulted in casualties or loss of equipment — and about 20 percent were ineffective, Tillotson said.

<p><b>IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATIONS</b></p>
------------------------------------------------------------------------

**THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR  
HEALTH;  
ALL HOME, NOW**



A U.S. soldier from 3-71 Cavalry fires a missile during a gun-battle with Taliban fighters in the village of Bargematal, Nuristan province, August 23, 2009. REUTERS/Oleg Popov



Sept. 13, 2009: A member of the U.S. Army's 3rd Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment (Airborne), based at Fort Richardson, Alaska, patrols through Zerok District, East Paktika province in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Dima Gavrysh)

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

## **SOMALIA WAR REPORTS**

### **Rebels Attack Road Connecting Presidential Palace And Airport.**

9.25.09 (Mareeg)

MOGADISHU: At least five civilians were killed in Mogadishu fighting between government soldiers backed by African Union troops and the Islamist rebels, witnesses and officials said on Friday.

Mohamed Osman Arus, a spokesman for Hizbul Islam rebel group led by hardline cleric Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys claimed the responsibility of the attack and said they inflicted heavy casualties to the government and the AU soldiers.

The rebels attacked at AMISOM bases in Makka al-Mukarama road which connects the presidential palace and the airport.

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## **TROOP NEWS**

### **“Removing IV Training From The CLS Course Is Absolutely Stupid” “This Will Cost Lives”**

Letters To The Editor

9.28.09

Army Times

I write in regard to a letter in the Sept. 21 issue, which was in response to the Sept. 14 article reporting on the Army's decision to remove IV training from the Combat Lifesaver course.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jack Treese (ret.) talks about how well trained he was and how much training he had received; he goes on to say he missed approximately 80 percent of his attempts to gain intravenous access.

I know that I speak for the majority of medics that we as combat medics pride ourselves on our ability to gain IV access in any environment, whether it be the stress of a combat situation or the organized chaos of an emergency room.

It is our ability to gain IV access in any situation coupled with our expertise in field medicine and trauma management that has saved the lives of countless soldiers.

Regarding the curriculum change, removing IV training from the CLS course is absolutely stupid.

There are many units in the Army that do not have organic medical assets.

Removing IV training from CLS curriculum means that units that see combat on a regular basis but do not have a medic with them will have no personnel with the ability to gain intravenous access.

This will cost lives.

When administered properly, IV fluids are sometimes the only way to keep a patient alive long enough to reach a surgical team that can further treat the patient's injuries.

My first thought as a medic with three years in a unit comprised mostly of 19D cavalry scouts was what happens when I get injured. If none of the soldiers in my platoon know how to replenish fluids, how am I going to survive the drive to the next echelon of care?

I took the time to ensure my scouts were trained above the standard so that if something happened to me I would be confident that they could take care of me.

**On several occasions when I had patients on the ground, it was my scouts who obtained IV access while I was working on a more severely wounded patient who was bleeding or having airway complications.**

Soldiers who are trained properly in bleeding control, airway management and the indications for IV fluid administration will save lives.

Cutting IV training out of the CLS class is not the answer.

Spc. Matthew L. Wellington  
Fort Hood, Texas

### **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 to**

[contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 888.711.2550

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



The body of Army Staff Sgt. Nekl B. Allen after his funeral in Parma, N.Y., Sept. 22, 2009. Allen was killed in combat in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/ David Duprey)

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**Racist Piece Of Shit Troy D. West  
Attacks Black Female Army Reservist**



Worthless piece of shit Troy D. West disguised as human being: AP Photo/Morrow  
Police Department, File

A black female Army reservist said Sept. 16 she hasn't been able to sleep since she was beaten by a white man in front of her 7-year-old daughter the previous week, and federal authorities said they were investigating the incident as a hate crime.

Tashawnea Hill was kicked and punched Sept. 9 as the man screamed racial slurs outside a Cracker Barrel in Morrow, Ga., about 15 miles southeast of Atlanta, police said. Troy D. West, 47, became enraged when Hill told him to be careful after he nearly hit her daughter while opening the restaurant's door, police said.

Hill was taken to the hospital and treated.

Her rank and unit were not available at press time.

FBI spokesman Stephen Emmett said the Justice Department's civil rights division in Washington has initiated a probe into the incident.

West was charged with battery, disorderly conduct and cruelty to children, and is currently out on \$5,000 bond. A hearing has been set for Sept. 24 in Clayton County.

Police said the cruelty to children charge was included because Hill's daughter witnessed the beating.

West told Morrow police he became upset because Hill spit on him after accusing him of trying to hit her daughter, according to the police report.

But several witnesses said they never saw Hill spit on West.

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**



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

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

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

**Frederick Douglass, 1852**

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

**I say that when troops cannot be counted on to follow orders because they see the futility and immorality of them THAT is the real key to ending a war.**

**-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace**

**“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”**

**Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787.**

**“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**

**Re: “Why Are We Sending Out  
Soldiers Over There Unprepared ...?”  
The Real Question Is: “Why Are We  
Sending Them Over There At All?”**

From: Felicity Arbuthnot.  
To: GI Special  
Subject: RE: Military Resistance [GI Spc] 719: "Unprepared"  
Date: 25 Sep 2009

Re: "Why are we sending out soldiers over there unprepared ...?"

The real question is: "why are we sending them over there at all?"

The idea a whole lot of dish-dasha, kaffiya-wearing, sandaled Afghans (average life expectancy 42, literacy rate around 39%, one of the poorest countries on the planet) are going to launch an attack on the US or UK is the concept of the lunatic asylum.

In Iraq, young lives (theirs and ours) are being lost for oil, in Afghanistan they are being lost for a natural gas pipeline and dominance of a strategically important region.

America's President and Commander in Chief, former Editor of the Harvard Law Review, is anyway, in both instances on extremely dodgy legal grounds. Seems he wants to be as tough as his predecessor, perhaps to erase the "Hussein" from his name, at the cost of no matter how many lives, the cynic might think.

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

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

## **September 23, 1939: Disgusting Imperial Anniversary; Hitler Sells Lithuania, Stalin Buys**

Carl Bunin Peace News 9.23 – 9.30

Nazi-led Germany [capitalists pretending to be "National Socialists"] and the Communist Soviet Union [capitalists pretending to be Communists] considered enemies at the time, negotiated an addendum to the Hitler-Stalin Pact ceding Lithuania, the small independent country on the Baltic Sea, to the Soviets' sphere of influence [translation: to the Russian Empire] in exchange for 7.5 million gold dollars.

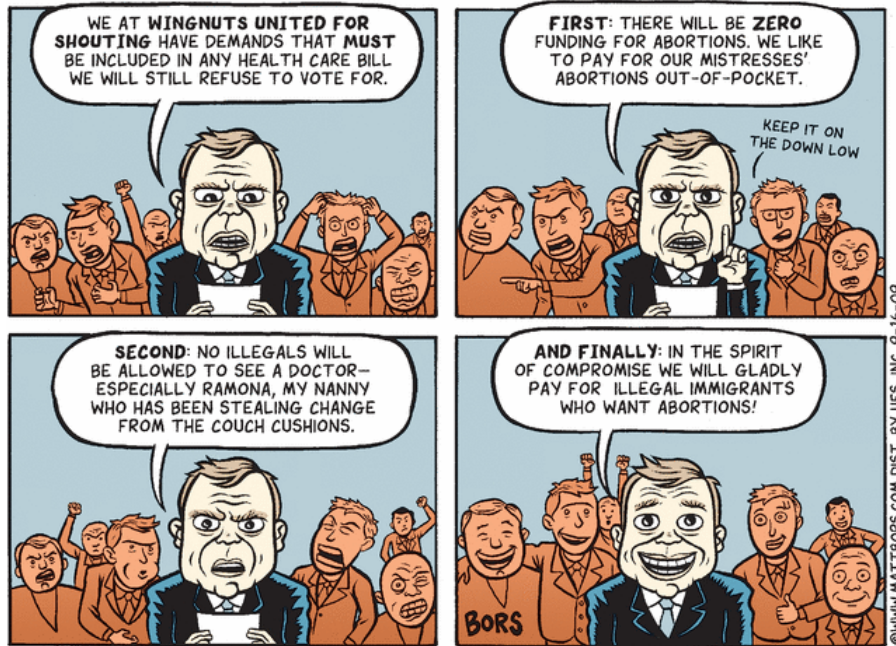
Josef Stalin, the Georgian who was General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, and Adolf Hitler, Chancellor of Germany, had agreed the previous month to allow



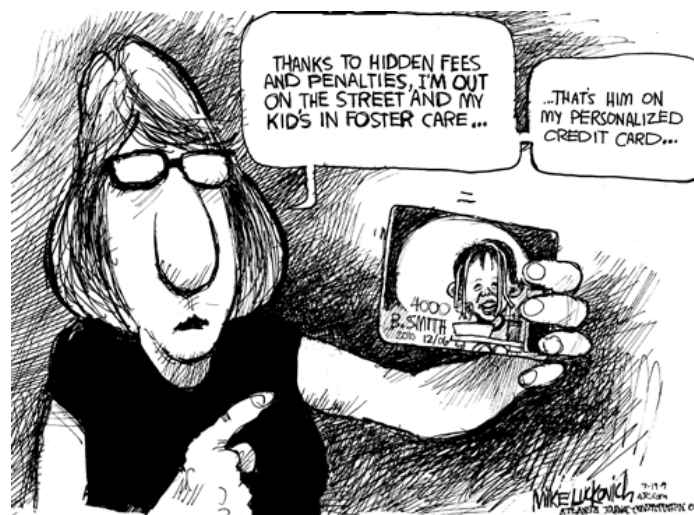
Germany free reign [translation: to expand the German Empire] in eastern Europe, leading to Germany's invasion of Poland.

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## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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**With No Obvious Protesters In  
Sight, Police “Sprayed Pepper Gas  
On Passersby And Even Students  
Looking Down From The  
Balconies Of Their Residences  
Above The Avenue”**

**“The Majority Of Those Who Faced  
Down Police Along Schenley Plaza  
Appeared To Be Pitt Students Who  
Turned Out After Sirens And Police  
Descended On The Campus”**

**“If Anything, Police Have Made More  
Protesters Today”**



The Sheriff at work: Bill Perry September 25, 2009

September 25, 2009 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette & by Michelle Nichols and Jonathan Barnes, Reuters & AFP [Excerpts]

Pittsburgh braced for more trouble Friday as thousands of activists prepared to rally against leaders of the world's top economies after a day and night of violent street protests.

The Group of 20 is a forum for the world's biggest developed and emerging economies and its meetings are a magnet for anti-capitalists opposed to what they see as an undemocratic body promoting inhumane free market policies.

Hundreds of police clashed with a large crowd of demonstrators and college students in the heart of the Oakland business district late last night, an offshoot of protests that rocked the city from mid-afternoon on yesterday.

Riot-clad officers, estimated at 300 strong, lined the sidewalk behind the William Pitt Union, and another 200 officers blocked Forbes Avenue near the union.

Police sent round after round of OC gas into fleeing crowds as police sought to take control of the streets.

**The confrontation followed an incident in which anarchists smashed store windows along streets in the neighborhood, but the majority of those who faced down police along Schenley Plaza appeared to be Pitt students who turned out after sirens and police descended on the campus.**

As pepper spray was fired into the crowd, officers struck some demonstrators with their batons, including one young woman who appeared to toss her bicycle at advancing officers. Television cameras caught officers striking the woman, pushing her to the ground and handcuffing her face-down on the street.

**Many of those in the crowd were shouting, "Let's go, Pitt," leading observers to believe that they weren't the self-proclaimed "anarchists" who caused trouble in both Lawrenceville and Bloomfield yesterday afternoon.**

**"If anything, police have made more protesters today," said Clint Sawyer, an onlooker who had bicycled over the 40th Street Bridge from Millvale to see what was going on.**

By midnight, hundreds of police in riot gear moved down Forbes Avenue. With no obvious protesters in sight, they sprayed pepper gas on passersby and even students looking down from the balconies of their residences above the avenue.

"We were just looking, then there were loud sirens and then it was hard to breath and I was coughing up a lung," said student Dustin DeMeglio, 19, who was watching as police moved by his apartment building.

**Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out**

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

<http://williambowles.info/gispecial/2008/index.html>; [news@uruknet.info](mailto:news@uruknet.info);

[http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/)



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