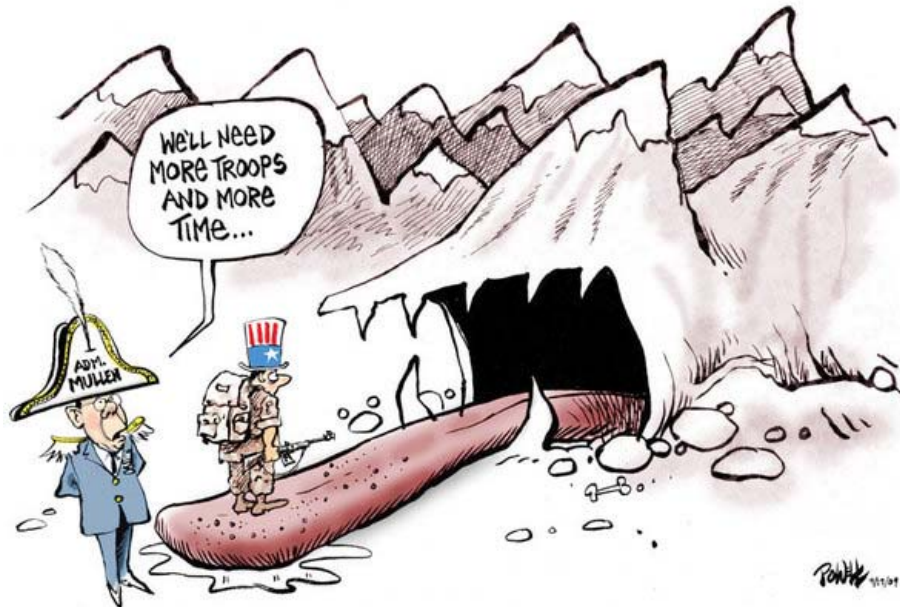


Military Resistance: 719:

[Formerly GI Special]



[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

Fallen Soldier Worried About Lack Of Equipment:

**“He Just Felt That There Wasn’t
Near Enough Ammunition And
Resources To Defend Himself”**

**“Can Someone Please Explain To Me
Why On Earth We Are Sending Our Men
And Women Over There Unprepared”**



Aug 28, 2009 By Keith Eldridge, KOMO News

FEDERAL WAY, Wash. - The grieving family of a local soldier who was killed in Afghanistan says he often expressed concern about a lack of ammo and other resources to fight the war.

Pfc. Dennis M. Williams, 24, of Federal Way, was one of four soldiers killed Tuesday in a roadside bomb blast in Afghanistan. It was Williams' first tour there.

Although he was only a private first class, his family says Dennis was wise beyond his years when it came to the military.

“What he was told and what he heard is that ammo was low, conserve your stuff, and he just didn’t feel that they were equipped like they should have been - like it was a low-budget war,” says Dennis’ brother, David Williams.

Dennis and the 4,000 members of the 5th Stryker Brigade from Fort Lewis have only been in Afghanistan a month and have already lost six soldiers.

The other three soldiers killed in Tuesday’s roadside bombing were identified as Capt. John L. Hallett III, 30, of California; Capt. Cory J. Jenkins, 30, of Arizona; and Sgt. 1st Class Ronald W. Sawyer, 38, of Trenton, Mo.

Two other Stryker Brigade soldiers were killed last week.

Dennis Williams’ stepfather says Dennis had just talked to his family back home expressing concern about the conditions in the war zone.

“He just felt that there wasn’t near enough ammunition and resources to defend himself,” says Dennis’ stepfather, Lonny Teifke.

Family members said Dennis had the goal of becoming a police officer and had worked as a security guard at KOMO-TV and Fisher Plaza.

He also was a 2003 graduate of Federal Way High School, but he’s best remembered as a loving father and family man.

He leaves behind an 18-month-old daughter, Alaina, and a 1-month-old son, Grant, born 10 days before Dennis shipped out.

"I'm glad he got to see the birth of his son," says Teifke. "And he really enjoyed his family."

The children now are without a father - and too young for memories.

"But he will be remembered for the rest of his life through us and his family and his loved ones," says his brother.

Dennis Williams' wife and father are on their way home now after taking part in a brief ceremony on the East Coast when Dennis' casket was brought back. Funeral services have yet to be decided.

Comments From Readers:

"Can Someone Please Explain To Me Why On Earth We Are Sending Our Men And Women Over There Unprepared"

Missy 63p:

Can someone please explain to me why on earth we are sending our men and women over there unprepared, still????

These men and women are giving their lives for a war that is ill advised at best and they aren't even given a fair shake in the weapons and protection department.

The government should do a better job of protecting them, instead of letting so much harm befall them.

Rest in Peace Dennis, you will always live on in your family's hearts.

"If Dennis Williams Said There Is Not Enough Ammo, You Can Say All You Want In The Comfort Of Your Own Home"

J6P 59p

Well given the fact this Soldier was killed by an IED, I don't know what ammo has to do with it.

Jake_Murphy 42p

Hey J6P you dont have one right to question dennis williams. PFC or not i would follow that man into battle any day.

I recently returned from Afghanistan, the same exact province PFC Williams was in.

If Dennis Williams said there is not enough ammo, you can say all you want in the comfort of your own home.

With running water, anything you want to eat, tv, phones, and internet.

Unless you are over there right now or knew Dennis Williams I highly suggest you watch what you say.

“Not Very Possitive Vibes Coming From Where They Are. That Is All I’ll Say”

jonh 1p

God bless another fallen soldier my best to his family and friends. My son is in the 5-2 also.

Not very possitive vibes coming from where they are. That is all I’ll say.

**“Have Heard First Hand”
“Our Service Personnel Are Under Equipped, Ill Prepared & Over Extended”**

LocalLady 83p

It’s not “rumor” –

I know career (20 years) Marines who have stated the exact same thing all along, and have heard first hand from them of some of the ways the US Government is wasting the money over there while all our service personnel are under equipped, ill prepared & over extended.

“Dennis Was An Intelligent Young Man As Is My Son-In-Law, But Lack Of Support, Minimal Training, Etc. Are A Danger To Even The Most Intelligent Of People”

tchrncch 62p

This is so frustrating and sad -- I dread reading the news each day knowing how dangerous it is for our soldiers.

MY son-in-law is ALSO in the 5-2 (a medic) and I hope everyday that he is safe and will make it home to see his daughter. My daughter is pregnant with their first child.

From what I hear - they are just not as careful as they should be over there - whether that means better training beforehand, more ammo, more soldiers or ???

It sounds like Dennis was an intelligent young man as is my son-in-law, but lack of support, minimal training, etc. are a danger to even the most intelligent of people.

That's a dangerous and unstable place to be and to not be completely ready to patrol, go on missions, etc. is unfortunately going to lead to more unnecessary deaths.

These guys weren't even originally training for Afghanistan - they were originally going to Iraq until orders were changed in around December!

The training they were doing was for IRAQ! - different terrain, among other things.

“Heart Ache”

lamLisa 31p

As the mother of a son current deployed in the Middle East this makes my heart ache.

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: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 888.711.2550

ACTION REPORTS

The Cardboard Cutout:

[New York City National Guard Armory Assembly Outreach Report]

From: Richie M
To: GI Special
Sent: September 21, 2009
Subject:

New York City National Guard Armory Assembly Outreach Report:

On September 19th, 2009 two members of Military Project and one new enthusiastic person, appeared at the gates of the [XXXX] Armory at 5:45 A.M. for this National Guard Assembly with the latest edition of Traveling Soldier, copies of "Sir! No Sir!" and "Querido Camilo" sealed in zip lock bags.

Twenty two pieces of literature were distributed along with three copies of "Sir! No Sir!" and five copies of "Querido Camilo".

It was dark and a little chilly out as one of us pointed out the cardboard cutout of a guardsman inside the guardhouse by the gate.

We stood at the gate in which the soldiers had to drive through to get onto the Armory grounds.

At first they didn't seem interested in taking the packets as we were standing on the sidewalk which was near the car's passenger window.

However, then we moved into the driveway so we could be on the drivers side of the car and we started to receive a lot more interest and attention. [True during Vietnam Days, true now. The driver is the one who makes the decision on yes or no. T]

We did not have any time for personal conversations with the soldiers as they had to drive into the gate to avoid blocking traffic but for the most part we received a smile and a "thank you" for those who rolled down their window to take a packet.

Around 7 A.M. All the literature and dvd's were distributed and as we started to walk away we noticed two guardsmen go to the guardhouse by the main gate to begin their shift and relieve the cardboard cutout.

MORE:

ACTION REPORTS WANTED: FROM YOU!

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to GI Special for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how.

If there were favorable responses, say so. If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

NOTE WELL:

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not in any way identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the wars.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs identifying information be published in reporting on the action.

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Kandahar

September 23, 2009 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 742-09

Pfc. William L. Meredith, 26, of Virginia Beach, Va., died Sept. 21 in Kandahar, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 569th Engineer Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, Fort Carson, Colo.

Pennsylvania Sgt. Killed In Afghanistan



Sgt. Andrew H. McConnell, 24, of Carlisle, Pa. died Sept. 14, 2009 of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked with an improvised explosive device in southern Afghanistan. (AP Photo/I Corps & Fort Lewis Public Affairs Office)

British Soldier Killed By Gereshk Blast; Two More Wounded

22 September 2009 Scarborough Evening News

A SCARBOROUGH soldier has escaped serious injury after an attack in Afghanistan which killed one soldier and badly injured two more.

Carl Peterson, 29, a sergeant in the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment (Green Howards) was blown off his feet following the blast yesterday, during a dismounted patrol in the Gereshk district, in the central Helmand province.

The soldier, from the 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment, was due to leave the country after handing over control of the patrol to Sgt Peterson.

He was taken from the scene by military helicopter but later died of his injuries.

The other two soldiers suffered shrapnel injuries to their arms and legs.

Soldier From 2 MERCIAN Killed In Gereshk

21 Sep 09 Ministry of Defence

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that a soldier from 2nd Battalion The Mercian Regiment has been killed in Afghanistan on the morning of 21 September 2009.

The soldier was killed as a result of an explosion that happened whilst on a dismounted patrol in the Gereshk District, central Helmand Province.

Local Marine Grievously Injured In Mortar Attack



Jeremy Terry

September 21, 2009 WLWT

CINCINNATI -- A local Marine is recovering after being grievously injured in a mortar attack while serving in Afghanistan.

Family members said Jeremy Terry, 21, joined the Marines after graduating from Brookeville High School.

His father, Jeffrey Terry, said that his son was in Afghanistan for about three weeks before the attack building bunkers.

Terry said his son was struck in a mortar attack, and suffered an injury to his chest and leg. Jeremy Terry was flown to Germany for treatment, and his family said he just underwent a third operation.

News 5 talked with Terry's family in their Westwood home.

"They're all heroes over there, not just my son," Jeffrey Terry said.

Terry said the attack almost took his son's life. While talking with News 5, he recalled what he told his son before Jeffrey Terry enlisted.

"Do what your heart tells you. Listen to your heart and follow your dreams, if that's what you want," Terry said.

The mortar explosion was partially deflected by Terry's body armor. However, it exploded near his friends and much of the shrapnel struck his legs.

His family said that Terry couldn't move after the attack and that he suffered gashes to his body and a broken arm.

"He was standing sideways and he got hit in the chest with mortar, and it took down two of his colleagues," Terry said.

His father said he remembers the call he got after the attack.

"He said, 'This is Master Sgt. So-and-so with the Marine Corps.' I said, 'Sir, is this going to be bad?' He said, 'This is going to be bad,'" Terry said.

The family asked to speak to Jeremy Terry as soon as they could.

"He said he remembered looking down and thought his legs were gone. His legs were all bloody and said, 'I thought it was over, dad,'" Terry said.

Fortunately, a medic was nearby at the time and was able to perform and impromptu surgery.

"His life would have been over. He said, 'I would have died right there in the field, dad,'" Terry said.

The Marine told his family that he thought of his son, Carter, and wife, Stacy, who were waiting back home.

Jeffrey said he talked to his son Monday morning and that his condition is improving.

"It does look like doctors will be able to save his leg at this point. They just don't know what level of mobility he'll have," Terry said.

Jeremy told his family that he doesn't want to be singled out with some many more men and women serving. He said he is planning to send his squad mates Grippos and Bengals games on DVD.

His family said that Jeremy told them that he'll recover like his role models; Bengals quarterback Carson Palmer and wide receiver Chris Henry, coming back better and stronger.

U.S. Commanding General “Castigated The U.S. Military In Afghanistan For Being “Preoccupied With Protection Of Our Own Forces” [In July And August U.S. Troop Deaths In The War More Than Doubled]

September 23, 2009 By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

Concern is rising in Congress and among military families over a sharp increase in U.S. troop deaths in Afghanistan at a time when senior military officials acknowledge that American service members are facing greater risks under a new strategy that emphasizes protecting Afghan civilians.

In July and August, the number of Afghan civilians killed by coalition forces was 19, compared with 151 for the same two months last year.

Over the same period, U.S. troop deaths in the war more than doubled -- 96 this year, compared with 42 last year -- prompting worries that McChrystal's constraints [Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan] and other tactical changes are creating advantages for a resurgent Taliban.

McChrystal, in a major assessment disclosed by The Washington Post on Monday, castigated the U.S. military in Afghanistan for being “preoccupied with protection of our own forces.”

He wrote that U.S. and other military personnel must minimize their time in armored vehicles and walled bases and “share risk, at least equally, with the people.”

McChrystal also called for coalition troops to “radically increase” joint operations with Afghan forces. Both steps, he said, mean greater risk for coalition troops in the near term but could “ultimately save lives in the long run.”

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, have also acknowledged recently that the new strategy has elevated the risk for U.S. troops.

Gates, in a television interview this month, said that McChrystal “has changed the rules in terms of air power. He has issued a directive that convoys obey Afghan traffic laws

and, in fact, that our troops take some additional risk to themselves to avoid innocent Afghan casualties.”

Three Italian Soldiers Wounded In Shindand

24 Sept. (AKI)

Two Italian soldiers were injured in southwest Afghanistan on Thursday after being attacked by militants. Sources in the Italian defence ministry told Adnkronos that the attack occurred during a humanitarian operation in Shindand, around 100 kilometres north of Farah, in the southwest.

As soon as the attack occurred, two A10 fighter aircraft from the multi-national International Security Assistance Force were called to reinforce the troops under attack.

One of the Italian soldiers was injured in the hand, while another was wounded in the neck.

The injured paratroopers, who belong to the same 186th Lightning Brigade which lost six soldiers in the massive bomb attack in the capital, Kabul, last week, were recovering at the hospital in the Italian base in Herat

“Their condition is not serious,” said Maj. Marco Amoriello, Italy’s spokesman at the camp in Herat in an interview with Adnkronos International (AKI).

Resistance Action

Sept 24 (Reuters) & AFP

A roadside bomb wounded seven people including a provincial intelligence chief, four of his bodyguards and two civilians in the western city of Farah, provincial governor Rohul Amin said.

A roadside bomb tore through an Afghan police vehicle killing three policemen and wounding two others in a Taliban stronghold of southern Afghanistan on Thursday, the government said. The police were en route from Lashkar Ghah, capital of Helmand province to neighbouring Girishk district when the blast took place, Daud Ahmadi, spokesman for the provincial governor, told AFP.

Taliban insurgents on Thursday shot dead seven pro-government tribal elders in a northwest Pakistan town troubled by militant violence, police said. The victims of the Taliban ambush in Janikhel town included tribal chief Malik Sultan, who was active in raising a government-sponsored militia against militants in the area, local police chief Iqbal Marwat said.

A roadside bomb wounded seven people including a provincial intelligence chief, four of his bodyguards and two civilians in the western city of Farah, provincial governor Rohul Amin said.

Facts On The Ground

September 23, 2009 By Ann Scott Tyson, Washington Post Staff Writer

As military operations intensified in Afghanistan this summer, the number of times that coalition troops came under fire increased more than 30 percent compared with the summer of 2008.

U.S. Occupation Command In Major Retreat: Giving Up The Countryside To Afghan Resistance: U.S. Soldiers At Barge Matal Were Staked Out TO Die To Please Politicians: “I Don’t Think Anyone In The U.S. Military Wanted To Be Up There”

Sep 22 By Greg Jaffe, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan -- Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, the top military officer in Afghanistan, has told his commanders to pull forces out of sparsely populated areas where U.S. troops have fought bloody battles with the Taliban for several years and focus them on protecting major Afghan population centers.

But the changes, which amount to a retreat from some areas, have already begun to draw resistance from senior Afghan officials who worry that any pullback from Taliban-held territory will make the weak Afghan government appear even more powerless in the eyes of its people.

Senior U.S. officials said the moves were driven by the realization that some remote regions of Afghanistan, particularly in the Hindu Kush mountains that range through the northeast, were not going to be brought under government control anytime soon.

The changes are in line with McChrystal's confidential assessment of the war, which urges U.S. and NATO forces to "initially focus on critical high-population areas that are contested or controlled by insurgents."

In early July, Afghan President Hamid Karzai asked senior U.S. officials to dispatch a company of about 100 U.S. soldiers to Barge Matal, a village in the northern half of the province that is home to fewer than 500 people. Taliban insurgents had overrun the community and Karzai was insistent that that U.S. and Afghan forces wrest it back from the enemy.

"I don't think anyone in the U.S. military wanted to be up there," said a senior military official who oversees troops fighting in the village.

Senior military officials had hoped to be out of Barge Matal in about a week, but the deployment has stretched on for more than two months as U.S. and Afghan forces have battled Taliban insurgents.

Some insurgents seemed to be moving into the area from neighboring Pakistan solely to fight the U.S. troops there, said military officials.

At least one U.S. soldier has been killed and several have been wounded.

Although the U.S. finally pulled its troops out of the village this week, the extended deployment to the area has had ripple effects throughout eastern Afghanistan, forcing frustrated U.S. military officials to postpone plans made months earlier to abandon other remote bases.

Because troops are especially vulnerable to ambush when they are closing a base, large numbers of cargo helicopters are needed to quickly pull soldiers and their equipment out of the area.

For the last two months, a huge percentage of the U.S. cargo helicopter fleet in eastern Afghanistan has been dedicated to ferrying supplies to soldiers in Barge Matal, where there are few passable roads.

The remote area also has put large demands on the fleet of unmanned surveillance aircraft in Afghanistan, which are needed to help safeguard soldiers as they close outposts in hostile areas.

Most of the U.S. bases that commanders want to shutter in Nurestan were set up in 2004 and 2005 to interdict Taliban and foreign fighters moving through the area from Pakistan.

At Combat Outpost Lowell, about 110 U.S. and Afghan troops regularly visit the village of Kamu, which is right outside the base and has approximately 70 men.

But the troops aren't able to patrol any of the other villages in the area, some of which are less than two miles away, because the security in the area is too precarious and the terrain surrounding their base is too rugged.

U.S. and Afghan forces at Combat Outpost Keating, also in Nurestan, are even more constrained.

The base is about one mile from the Taliban-controlled village of Kamdesh, but more than 100 U.S. and Afghan troops there haven't set foot in the village in more than three months. On rare occasions, the elders from the local shura, or council, will come and discuss reconstruction projects with troops at the outpost.

"They are protecting themselves in those areas, and the bottom line is that is not enough," he said. "They don't get off the base enough because of what it takes to defend those places and the security situation up there."

The U.S. military has only a few months left to close some of its more remote outposts in mountainous eastern Afghanistan before winter, when such operations become much more logistically complex.

Scaparrotti said he is confident that the United States will be able to shutter several bases and reposition forces before winter arrives.

But commanders are also hedging their bets.

George recently gave orders to the commanders at both the Lowell and Keating bases to prepare their outposts for the cold.

Big Surprise!

“They’ve Outmaneuvered Us Time And Time Again”

U.S. Occupation Commander Says “Insurgency Has Appointed Shadow Governors In Most Provinces Of Afghanistan” Levies Taxes, Establishes Courts And Conducts A Formal Review Of Its Military Campaign Each Winter

Sept. 24, 2009 By Eric Schmitt and Mark Mazzetti, New York Times [Excerpts]

The Taliban's expansion into parts of Afghanistan that it once had little influence over comes as the Obama administration is struggling to settle on a new military strategy for Afghanistan, and as the White House renews its efforts to get Pakistan's government to be more aggressive about killing or capturing Taliban leaders inside Pakistan.

These assessments echo a recent report by Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, the top military commander in Afghanistan, in portraying the Taliban as an increasingly sophisticated shadow government that sees itself on the cusp of victory in the war-ravaged nation.

General McChrystal's report describes how Mullah Omar's insurgency has appointed shadow governors in most provinces of Afghanistan, levies taxes, establishes Islamic courts there and conducts a formal review of its military campaign each winter.

"The Taliban is trying to create trouble elsewhere to alleviate pressure" in the south, said one senior American intelligence official. "They've outmaneuvered us time and time again."

General McChrystal said in a telephone interview on Wednesday that he had been surprised by "the growth of the shadow government, the growth of its coercion and its growth into the north and west."

More Than 100 Collaborator Officials And Tribal Elders Attacked This Year - Half Of Them Fatally: "The Taliban Know That If You Kill One Guy In The Government, It Discourages Another 10 From Being In That Job"

Sep 22 By KAY JOHNSON, Associated Press Writer

Assassinations have intensified this year, with more than 100 officials and pro-government tribal elders attacked - half of them fatally.

Echoing a strategy of insurgents in Iraq, such killings sow fear, undermine the already weak government and make it difficult to fill official posts with educated and competent Afghans.

“The Taliban know that if you kill one guy in the government, it discourages another 10 from being in that job,” said [Arsalah] Jamal, who returned to Kabul this year to work for President Hamid Karzai’s re-election.

Many Afghans blame the Karzai government for rampant corruption and the revitalized insurgency at a time when most people still lack basic services such as sewer systems and electricity.

Several district chiefs around Afghanistan told The Associated Press they’ve hired private security but still cannot leave the main towns in their district because insurgents control the countryside.

Even bodyguards, used by some Afghan officials, can offer little protection against bombings.

More than 50 Afghan officials and tribal elders have been killed in more than 100 attacks targeting government leaders in 2009, said Sami Kovanen, an analyst with the security consultancy Tundra Group, which tracks violence in Afghanistan.

The Taliban seek to weaken local government authority, Kovanen said. “Then they set up their own system of Shariah law and they install their own shadow government.”

In one recent attack, a Taliban suicide bomber killed the country’s deputy intelligence chief, Abdullah Laghmani, and 22 other people as they were leaving a mosque in Laghman province.

Sitting in a courtyard garden where caged parakeets chirped and armed guards stood outside, Jamal ticked off on his fingers the assassinations last year in Khost province: one of his district chiefs killed by a bomb, a judge slain by a sniper, another district chief who escaped one suicide attack in 2008 only to be killed by another this year.

Hundreds of local leaders have been threatened.

Tribal elder Khaki Jan Zadran said militants from the powerful Haqqani network vowed to kill him last year for serving on Paktia’s provincial council. He left his village five months ago and now stays in the eastern province’s capital, Gardez, living more like a fugitive than an elected official.

“I don’t stay in one place more than two or three nights,” Zadran said. “And I can’t go back to my village.”

Zadran, 55, is a member of the same Pashtun tribe as militant leader Jalaluddin Haqqani, and both fought against the 1980s Soviet occupation.

He said he was elected to the provincial council after the Taliban’s ouster in the 2001 U.S.-led invasion, but has been disappointed by the government he is part of, decrying the bribe-seeking by everyone from passport clerks to judges.

“There is too much corruption. We need to have more honest people in government,” he said.

Jamal said hiring honest, effective civil servants is difficult because of the decades of war. One of his frustrations as governor was finding people willing to work as district- and village-level leaders, and the threat of violence complicates that effort even more.

With so many people afraid to take government jobs, they often fall mostly to the underqualified, power-hungry or just plain greedy, Jamal said.

Dozens of honest and qualified Afghans refused offers of government jobs, he said.

One small victory for Jamal before he stepped down was persuading an aid worker colleague to become mayor of Khost city, the provincial capital. “He was killed, unfortunately, this year,” Jamal said. “He was a very successful mayor, but he was killed.” [And that’s what is called a “victory.” T]

Good News For The Afghan Resistance!!

U.S. Occupation Commands’ Stupid Terror Tactics Recruit Even More Fighters To Kill U.S. Troops



Foreign occupation troops from the USA public humiliate an elderly Afghan on the road near the town of Khan Neshin in Rig district of Helmand province, southern Afghanistan

September 11, 2009. The soldiers stopped men at gunpoint and put their hands on the bodies of the Afghan citizens without consent during a patrol. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic

**NEW GENERAL ORDER NO. 1:
PACK UP
GO HOME
THIS IS FOR SHIT**



Sept. 15, 2009: Soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3rd Battalion, 509th Infantry Regiment (Airborne), based at Fort Richardson, Alaska, during a patrol in Zerok district, East Paktika province in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Dima Gavrysh)

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

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

**Insurgents Captures Western Town From
Pro U.S.-Government Forces**

Sep 21, 2009 (Reuters) & Mareeg

MOGADISHU — Al-Shabaab militants have sized Yeed town in western Somalia from pro government forces after fierce fighting that killed at least seventeen combatants, witnesses said on Monday.

Residents said the fighting erupted in Yeed overnight when al Shabaab militants attacked government forces in the town.

Locals say at least seventeen people, mostly fighters were killed in the fighting.

The pro government soldiers have reportedly fled to Ethiopia.

Residents said militiamen of the Ethiopian rebel group the Ogaden Liberation Front (OLF) helped al Shaabab drive out government forces from Yeed town in the Bakool region.

“Al Shabaab and OLF militias took Yeed town from us,” Abdi Mohamed, Bakool region’s governor, told Reuters by phone.

“They also crossed the border and looted property from an Ethiopian mining company.

Yeed resident Nur Mohamud said the fighting in his town started on Sunday afternoon and intensified in the evening. There were at least 14 dead bodies lying on roads and in alleys, mostly dressed in government uniforms, he said.

“We have destroyed the enemy’s base from where they used to attack us,” Sheikh Hassan Maalim Takow, an al Shabaab commander, told Reuters. “From our side, four people died and of course some were injured, but to us that is not a loss.”

Fighting also broke out in Medina district in Mogadishu early on Monday, after the rebels attacked a base of government soldiers in the area.

“With Its Credibility Increasingly In Doubt, The Government Said It Was Planning A Fresh Offensive Against The Rebels -- But The Guerrillas Appeared To Have Attacked First”

Sept 23 By Abdi Guled (Reuters)

Islamist insurgents attacked government forces and African Union (AU) peacekeepers [translation: U.S. government-back occupation troops], witnesses said on Wednesday.

The rebels launched overnight raids on bases around the city's strategic K4 junction, triggering gun battles and barrages of mortar shells.

With its credibility increasingly in doubt, the government said it was planning a fresh offensive against the rebels -- but the guerrillas appeared to have attacked first. Witnesses said AU troops later fired shells at the capital's sprawling Bakara Market, which has long been an insurgent stronghold.

On Wednesday, a senior government official accused al Shabaab fighters of plundering an industrial training centre in the north of the capital after forcing its staff to flee.

"They have looted all the equipment from the workshops, and the generators," said the state minister for defence, Sheikh Yusuf Mohamed Siad, a former warlord also known as "Inda'ade".

A staff member at the institute, which was set up in part with German funding, confirmed the minister's account and told Reuters he and his colleagues had run away at gunpoint.

TROOP NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS



The remains of Staff Sgt. Andrew Thomas Lobosco, 29, of Somerville, N.J., at Arlington National Cemetery Sepy. 9, 2009. Lobosco died Aug. 22, in Yakhchal, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when Afghan insurgent forces attacked his unit. (AP Photo/Kevin Wolf)

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**

“For Too Long, Ordinary Americans Have Been Cast In Stereotypes That Are Contemptuous” [Especially by Elitist Shitheads Who Call Themselves “Progressives”]

More than two thirds of Americans say the government should care for those who cannot care for themselves; 64 per cent would pay higher taxes to guarantee health care for everyone; 59 per cent are favorable towards unions; 70 per cent want nuclear disarmament; 72 per cent want the US completely out of Iraq; and so on.

September, 02 2009 By John Pilger, Zcommunications.org [Excerpts]

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Military Project, who sent this in.]

The clever young man who recently made it to the White House is a very fine hypnotist, partly because it is so extraordinary to see an African-American at the pinnacle of power in the land of slavery.

However, this is the 21st century, and race - together with gender and even class -- can be very seductive tools of propoganda.

For what matters, above race and gender, is the class one serves.

George Bush's inner circle - from the State Department to the Supreme Court - was perhaps the most multi racial in presidential history.

It was PC par excellence.

Think Condoleezza Rice and Colin Powell.

It was also the most reactionary.

During his brief period in the Senate, Obama voted to continue the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He voted for the Patriot Act. He refused to support a bill for single-payer health care. He supported the death penalty.

As a presidential candidate, he received more corporate backing than John McCain. He promised to close Guantanamo as a priority and has not.

Instead, he has excused the perpetrators of torture, re-instated the infamous military commissions, kept the Bush gulag intact and opposed habeas corpus.

The tragedy is that Brand Obama appears to have crippled or absorbed the anti war movement, the peace movement.

Out of 256 Democrats in Congress, thirty are willing to stand against Obama's and Nancy Pelosi's war party. On June 16, they voted for \$106 billion for more war.

In Washington, the Out of Iraq Caucus is out of action. Its members can't even come up with a form of words of why they are silent.

And where is the mighty Move On these days? Where is its campaign against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan?

And what exactly was said when, in February, Move On's executive director, Jason Ruben, met President Obama?

Yes, a lot of good people mobilized for Obama. But what did they demand of him - apart from the amorphous "change"?

That isn't activism.

Activism doesn't give up.

Activism is not about identity politics.

Activism doesn't wait to be told.

Activism doesn't rely on the opiate of hope. Woody Allen once said, "I felt a lot better when I gave up hope".

Real activism has little time for identity politics, a distraction that confuses and suckers good people everywhere.

In other words, an American president drafted to promote the most rapacious system in history is ordained and de-politicized by the left.

What is remarkable about this state of affairs is that the so-called radical left has never been more aware, more conscious, of the iniquities of power. The Green Movement, for example, has raised the consciousness of millions of people, so that almost every child knows something about global warming; and yet there is a resistance within the green movement to the notion of power as a military project. Similar observations can be made of the gay and feminist movements; as for the labor movement, is it still breathing?

Look at the polls that are seldom reported.

More than two thirds of Americans say the government should care for those who cannot care for themselves; 64 per cent would pay higher taxes to guarantee health care for everyone; 59 per cent are favorable towards unions; 70 per cent want nuclear disarmament; 72 per cent want the US completely out of Iraq; and so on.

For too long, ordinary Americans have been cast in stereotypes that are contemptuous.

That is why the progressive attitudes of ordinary people are seldom reported in the media.

They are not ignorant. They are subversive.

They are informed.

And they are “anti-American”.

I once asked a friend, the great American war correspondent and humanitarian, Martha Gellhorn, to explain “anti-American” to me.

“I’ll tell you what ‘anti-American’ is,” she said.

“It’s what governments and their vested interested call those who honor America by objecting to war and the theft of resources and believing in all of humanity.

“There are millions of these anti-Americans in the United States. They are ordinary people who belong to no elite and who judge their government in moral terms, though they would call it common decency. They are not vain. They are the people with a wakeful conscience, the best of America’s citizens. They can be counted on.

“They were in the south with the Civil Rights movement, ending slavery. They were in the streets, demanding an end to the wars in Asia.

“Sure, they disappear from view now and then, but they are like seeds beneath the snow. I would say they are truly exceptional.”

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

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

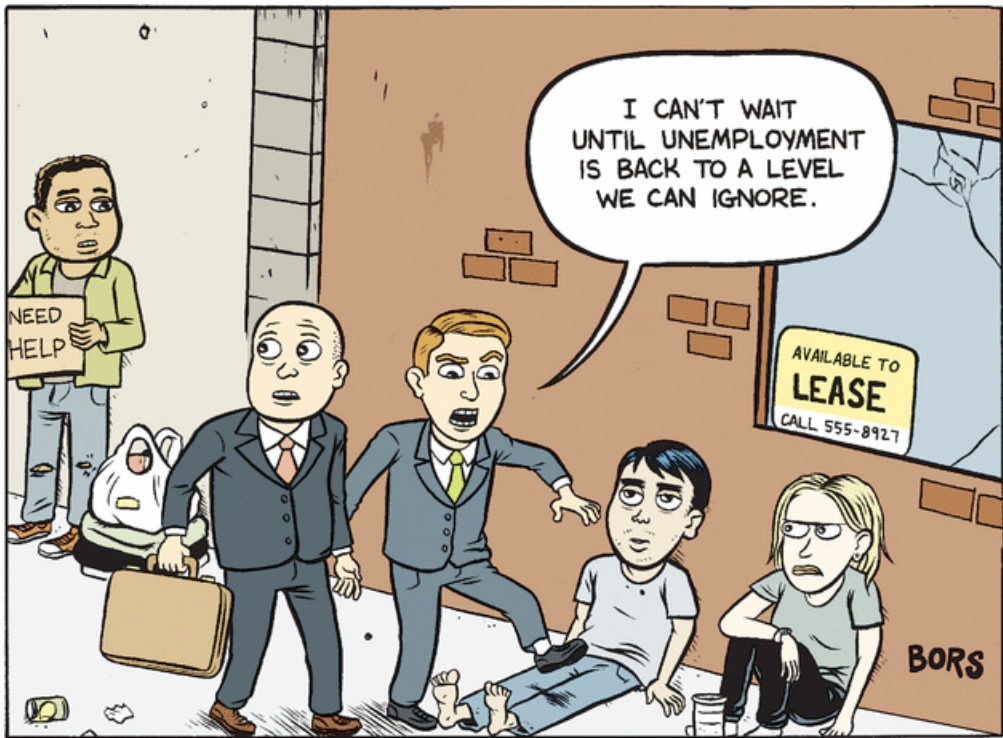


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“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.” Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

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