

Military Resistance 7J19

[GI Special]



10-19-09

Genocide

From: Dennis Serdel
To: Military Resistance
Sent: October 25, 2009
Subject: Genocide
Written by Dennis Serdel, Military Resistance 2009

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

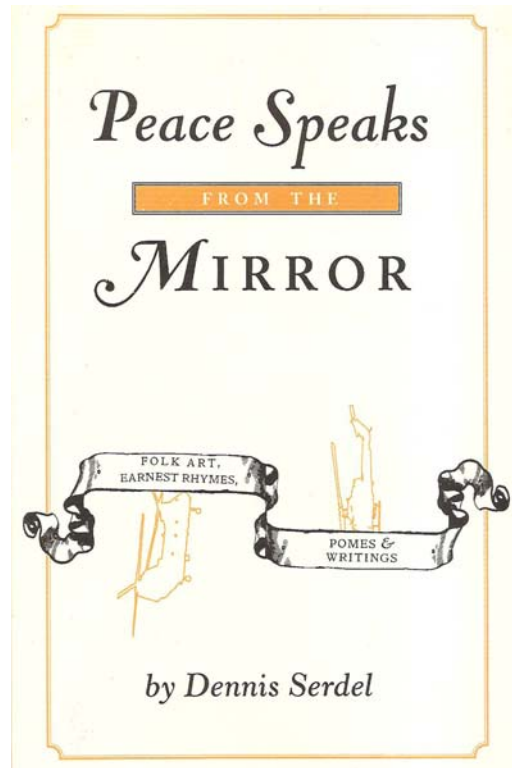
Genocide

Take a bar of soap
and stick it up his anus
but it doesn't do any good
as he defecates on the
world
So take a hand grenade
stick it up his anus
stand aside and watch
him blow up like
a suicide bomber
the people think he is
a terrorist and he is
but that is one less
of them
to kill so many people
It's time to scrub
the world
do some Elite Cleansing.
Take the tide of raging men
hang them from a rope
a cloths line
then take a broom
called a 45
cleanse both their ears
from one side to the other
it's called Elite Cleansing.
It's been done by them
many times to the poor
or unwanted people
so they can have it all
like the Palestinian
genocide in Israel today
or the genocide of Indians
in the past in the USA.
But now the new name
is Elite Cleansing
take a brush that is
a machinegun
line them up in Time's square
in front of everyone
with the cameras on
do some Elite Cleansing
leave not one standing
if they start to pray
tell them there is no god.

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: Ordering information below: T]



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Joined Veterans For Peace in January 1990.

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

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DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?

Forward Military Resistance 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 Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 888.711.2550

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Seven U.S. Troops And Three U.S. Narcs Killed When Copter Shot Down In Darabam; 11 More U.S. Troops Wounded

CNN October 26, 2009 + BBC

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

A helicopter went down in the west of the country after a raid on suspected drug traffickers.

Seven U.S. service members and three U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration personnel were killed, according to an ISAF statement.

Fourteen Afghan service members, 11 U.S. service members and one U.S. civilian were injured in the crash.

The Taliban said military action caused the Badghis crash.

Taliban spokesman Qari Yusuf Ahmedi told the AFP news agency that militants had shot down the US helicopter in the Darabam district of the province.

The helicopter was returning from a raid on a compound, ISAF had said earlier.

As the force was leaving, a helicopter "went down due to unconfirmed reasons," ISAF said. A recovery operation was launched.

Four U.S. Troops Killed, Two More Injured When Helicopters “Apparently” Collide Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan

CNN October 26, 2009

Four U.S. service members were killed when two helicopters apparently collided in the air in southern Afghanistan. Two other NATO service members were injured.

Camp Pendleton Marine Killed In Afghanistan



Staff Sgt. Aaron Taylor. (Photo courtesy of the Taylor family)

October 13, 2009 By MARK WALKER, North County Times

A bomb technician from Camp Pendleton has become the latest locally based Marine to die from a roadside bomb in Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Aaron Taylor died Friday when he exited a vehicle and stepped on the homemade explosive, his brother Kyle Taylor said in a telephone interview from the family's home in Minnesota.

The Defense Department announced his death Tuesday.

"He was an all-around good guy," 21-year-old Kyle Taylor said of his older brother. "He was really ambitious and everything he did he went after 150 percent."

Aaron Taylor, 27, joined the Marine Corps in 2002 and served a tour of duty in Iraq last year.

In Afghanistan, he was an explosive ordnance technician assigned to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing's Support Squadron 372, Marine Wing Support Group 37. He arrived in the country in early September.

Shortly before leaving for Afghanistan, Taylor had purchased a home in Temecula, his brother said.

After graduating high school, Taylor pursued law enforcement at a community college before deciding to enlist, Kyle Taylor said.

"He just called up one day and said he wanted to join the Marine Corps," he said. "He was the kind of guy who wanted to make a difference."

Taylor's father echoed those comments in an article in the Minneapolis Star Tribune newspaper.

"He was the type of guy who when he found what he wanted to do, he dove right in and learned everything about it," Clifford Taylor told the newspaper. "He knew that we were concerned and he was trying to reassure us that he was doing good work with a good group of people. He was confident that he'd be fine."

Taylor will be buried Saturday in Hermantown, Minn.

The U.S. military has recorded 243 troop deaths in Afghanistan in 2009. That makes this year already the deadliest year since the 2001 invasion following the 9/11 terror attacks that were traced to al-Qaida training camps in the south-central Asian nation.

The vast majority of deaths this year have come from roadside bombs, with military officials recently saying that the Taliban are increasingly using plastic parts and other materials that aren't readily detected by electronic sensors.

The bombs have been responsible for about 70 percent of all deaths and injuries in Iraq, roughly the same percentage now being experienced in Afghanistan.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's office on Tuesday issued a statement mourning Taylor's death and said that flags at the Capitol in Sacramento would be flown at half-staff in his memory.

Slain Soldier George Cauley Was Full Of Humor, Heart, His Friends And Family Say

10/14/2009 By Tad Vezner, TwinCities.com

Lying in an Afghanistan field hospital last week, newly wounded by a roadside bomb, Spc. George W. Cauley cracked open his eyes.

His captain stood above him, anxiously awaiting any update on the Minnesota Army National Guardsman's condition.

Cauley managed a smile most people would later speak of, in remembrance. "What do you need me to do today, captain?" he said, before drifting back off.

On Saturday, Cauley, 24, of Walker, Minn., died of wounds he suffered three days earlier, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province, according to the Pentagon.

Cauley's last words — relayed by the captain to the soldier's father, Richard Cauley — were a sign of the man Richard Cauley knew his son had become since he'd signed on for service in high school: full of heart, humor, and a willingness for hard work.

"After 9/11, that's when we noticed he started talking about it more and more, joining the Army. I think he was a sophomore," Richard Cauley said Wednesday from his home in Walker. "But as time progressed, he told me he wanted to make a difference, and he thought the military would be his best avenue to make a change.

"He was always that way, even as a kid; he always treated people the way he wanted to be treated. He lived up to that."

There was another sign of it in June when Richard Cauley and his wife, Gloria, spent a few days in Duluth for their only child's deployment ceremony. They listened to speakers and the governor, then had pizza and shot some pool.

"He won the first game, and after that I remembered how to play pool," Richard Cauley said. "We shared a couple beers." Sure, it was a Corona the elder Cauley didn't much care for, but "that was the first time he ever drank a beer with me."

"He said, 'It's what I want to do. It's the right thing to do.' ... He wanted a career with them," Richard Cauley said of his son's decision to serve, noting his son was going to apply to officer's school.

George Cauley enlisted just before graduating from Northland High School in 2003, and then spent most of his time running between the 114th Truck Company's base in Chisholm, Minn., and home, where he worked for a few area Wal-Mart stores.

As part of the Duluth-based 114th Truck Company, Cauley ran supplies for the Marine Corps. "They all knew there was a great risk; they were pretty much targets," Richard Cauley said.

The family received just one letter from him, dated Sept. 16.

"Everything is ok here. Just really tired. ... Greasing a few trucks and got caught in a mean dust storm. Other than that just trying to pass the time and the kidney stones ... The days here seem to go by quick if I keep myself busy."

Though the military has not officially released any word of the circumstances of the explosion, the Cauleys heard from their son's fellow Guard members in Afghanistan that "the IED went off pretty much underneath the driver's seat. He was completely blown out of the truck," Richard Cauley said. "I heard from the soldier that went to pick up the truck that the whole front end was gone."

Cauley's fellow soldiers called the 5-foot-3 specialist "the small one but the big-hearted one," said Brenda Hall, his girlfriend of four years. "He enjoyed being part of a group that actually did something for something. His platoon and squad were everything to him."

She received a call from him every couple days. "I love you. I'm your soldier," he would say.

She, too, received a single letter, around the same time as his parents. "He said he couldn't wait to get home to me to spend our life together, and he said he had a very important question to ask me," Hall said, before talking again about why she liked him so much.

"His smile. His big heart ... First time I met him, I was having a bad day and he put his arms around me."

Cauley received a Bronze Star, Purple Heart, NATO medal, Army Good Conduct Medal and Combat Action Badge. Services will be Tuesday at Camp Ripley.

Brooklyn Soldier Killed By Small-Arms Fire At Outpost, Latest Fallen Hero In Afghanistan



October 8th 2009 by Stephanie Gaskell and Michael J. Feeney, Daily News Staff Writers

Brooklyn soldier Kevin Hill called his mom from Afghanistan a few days ago to say he was fine.

"I told him I love him, and I told him I would pray for him," said Mahalia Hill, 46. "I always get emotional when I talk to him. I just wanted the time to pass and for him to be home."

"He never felt scared, but I always felt nervous," she told the Daily News from her Bushwick home.

That talk would be their last.

On Sunday, two somber-faced soldiers knocked on the door with the news: Hill, 23, had been killed in combat at an outpost in southern Afghanistan. Military officials said Hill, who was based at Fort Carson in Colorado, was hit by small-arms fire.

"He worked in a prison as a guard, so we felt that he was not totally safe, but safer," said his sister, Chinyere, 26. "He always said don't worry about him because he's okay."

Hill, who was single, didn't talk about the war much.

"He mentioned that a few of his friends had passed away," Chinyere said.

"My mother told him to stay strong and focused. He said he had seen a lot of bad things. He didn't really like to talk about it. He was a quiet guy. He just said he can't wait to come home."

Hill was due home in February, and he wanted to visit New Orleans and Jamaica.

"He wanted me to fill out his passport (application)," his mother said sadly.

Friends Share Memories Of Fallen Soldier



Joshua Hardt: Courtesy

10/11/09 By Penne Usher Journal Correspondent, Auburn Journal

The Auburn-area community continues to express condolences and share memories of fallen soldier, Sgt. Joshua Hardt.

Army Sgt. Hardt, 24, formerly of Applegate, was killed Oct. 3 while serving in Afghanistan.

According to family members, Hardt joined the military to bring honor to himself and his family.

He believed that a military career was the best way possible to provide for his wife and make a contribution to his country, said his mother Shelley Bell in a previous interview.

Hundreds of insurgents armed with automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenades stormed a pair of remote outposts near the Pakistan border, killing eight U.S. soldiers, including Hardt, and capturing more than 20 Afghan security troops in the deadliest assault against U.S. forces in more than a year, military officials have said.

“The family is grateful for the sympathy that has been extended and appreciates the community’s kindness in respecting their privacy during this difficult time,” Karen Fraser-Middleton, the family’s spokeswoman said in a prepared statement. “Updates will be provided as soon as they become available.”

Since the story of Hardt’s death was first reported in the Journal, friends of Hardt have sent photos and e-mailed their thoughts about the friend they lost all too soon.

“Among many things, Josh liked sports and fishing but what he enjoyed most was being with his people. If you were friends with Josh, you weren’t just a friend — you were his brother because that’s how Josh rolled. Watching the kids grow up and seeing the circles of friendship develop, Josh was one of the ‘go to’ friends for all. He was a charismatic young man with a great sense of humor. It’s no accident that Josh’s last name was Hardt, he had a huge heart. We are deeply saddened about the loss of Josh Hardt. He will be sorely missed by many,” wrote Don Leal on behalf of the Leal family.

Auburn Mayor Mike Holmes has requested the Hardt family’s permission to add the Placer grad’s name to the Auburn Area War Memorial located at the New Auburn Cemetery.

“I am deeply saddened by the death of Sgt. Hardt who was a credit to the Army and the people of the greater Auburn area. His dedication to serving his country upholds a tradition of longstanding in this community,” Holmes said Friday.

Dee Rein, of Operation Mom, sent a message of condolence that has been passed on to the family.

Hardt’s friend Shaun Roberts e-mailed several photographs and wrote that Josh was “the toughest young man I knew. He had a smile on his face all the time and he was just so funny.”

Family friend Julie Clark said how proud she was of the youngest Hardt boy. "Josh really loved what he was doing for his country," Clark said. "And it is because of this that we may find some joy in this time of immense sorrow."

Hardt, who spent his senior year at Placer High, played on the Hillmen football varsity team.

"He had a great year here," said Peter Efstathiu, school principal. "He was all-league in football and was a great all-around kid at school." The school may honor Hardt at its next home game.

"It's been talked about to have a moment of silence, but we haven't finalized anything yet," Efstathiu said Friday.

Also killed in the Oct. 3 attack were Staff Sgt. Vernon W. Martin, 25, of Savannah, Ga.; Sgt. Justin T. Gallegos, 27, of Tucson, Ariz.; Sgt. Joshua J. Kirk, 30, of South Portland, Maine; Sgt. Michael P. Scusa, 22, of Villas, N.J.; Spc. Christopher T. Griffin, 24, of Kincheloe, Mich.; Spc. Stephan L. Mace, 21, of Lovettsville, Va.; and Pfc. Kevin C. Thomson, 22, of Reno.

Joshua Hardt background:

Hardt was stationed in Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colo, with the 4th Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, 3rd Squadron. He was living in Colorado Springs with his wife, Olivia Guevara Hardt.

He joined the Army in 2006 with basic training at Fort Knox.

Hardt served his first deployment in Iraq with his brother, John Hardt. While serving in the Northeastern province of Afghanistan, Joshua Hardt was promoted to the rank of sergeant.

He is survived by his brother, Jonathon Michael Hardt, who is also serving in the U.S. Army, and Jeffrey Mathew Hardt of Auburn. He was the grandson of Herbert and Patricia Hardt, Sharon Heisey and John (Jake) Loughlin.

Sault Tribe Orders Flags To Half-Mast Tomorrow

October 13, 2009 By SooToday.com Staff

All Sault Tribe offices: Flags at half-staff all day on October 14, 2009

In honor of the life he gave up for his country, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will fly its flags at half-staff on the day of Army Sergeant Christopher Griffin's funeral, Wednesday, October 14, 2009.

Please join us in flying your flags at half staff in honor of the life he gave up October 3, 2009, while serving a grateful nation in Afghanistan.

He and eight fellow soldiers lost their lives in the battle when his combat outpost was attacked by enemy insurgents.

Christopher was born April 10, 1985, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Christopher grew up in Kincheloe, Mich. where he liked to spend time around the fire hall with his grandfather and father.

He was a 2004 graduate of Rudyard Area Schools where he was involved in varsity wrestling.

There was never any question about what Christopher would do after high school.

From the time he was a young boy, he talked about the military and enjoyed computer gaming.

Just three weeks after high school graduation, he began basic training in the United States Army at Fort Knox, Ky.

Christopher had served in South Korea, in Iraq in 2006-2007 and was most recently stationed out of Fort Carson, Colo.

Christopher was also a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Christopher is survived by his parents, Kerri and Mel Causley of Petoskey, Mich., and Rick and Kathy Baker-LaDuke of Kincheloe; sisters Melissa Giddis of Boyne Falls, Mich., and Darcie, Katie, and Megan Baker-LaDuke of Kincheloe; brother Derrick Baker-LaDuke of Kincheloe; and nephew Eli Giddis of Boyne Falls.

He is also survived by grandparents Cheryl Baker of Kincheloe, Tom and Maggie Balgenorth of Kincheloe, and Marcia Griffin of Goetzville, Mich., and many uncles, aunts and cousins who will miss him dearly.

Christopher was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Larry Baker and Kenneth Griffin.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 14 at 2 p.m. at the Rudyard Area Schools Gymnasium.

Contributions may be directed to Rudyard Area Schools for a Scholarship in Memory of Christopher at Rudyard Area Schools, P.O. Box 246, Rudyard, MI 49780.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford, Michigan is serving the family.

‘These Guys Are The Heroes’; Remembering Sgt. Kirk



Sgt. Joshua Kirk in Afghanistan. (Image courtesy of Peggy Kirk Rogers)

(Oct 15) By Daniel Dunkle, The Herald Gazette Business

The family members of Sgt. Joshua J. Kirk remember with pride that he was very committed to his brothers on the battlefield and to the fight in Afghanistan.

Kirk was killed Oct. 3 when Taliban forces assaulted an isolated U.S. Army outpost in Kamdesh, Afghanistan. He was 30 years old.

"He wanted to complete the mission," said Kirk's cousin Ben Dinsmore of Killeen, Texas. "It was bittersweet. He didn't want to leave his wife and his little girl, but he was committed to the mission. He wouldn't leave his brothers behind." "We really are fighting for our freedom," said his oldest sister Johnna Sohner of Boca Raton, Fla. "That's why Josh was there. He never lost sight of that day eight years ago."

"He died doing what he loved to do," she added. "He had such a desire to protect and lead."

"It really was a burden upon his heart," said his aunt Peggy Kirk Rogers of Rockport. "He really wanted to go over there and do his part."

Kirk was born in Thomaston, the son of Bernadette Dinsmore, originally of Thomaston, and the late John Kirk, a native of Rockland, according to family members.

Kirk leaves behind his wife, Megan, and his 3-year-old daughter Kennsington.

Kirk lived in the Midcoast until about the age of 5, when he moved with his family to Bonners Ferry, Idaho. It was there that he and his cousin Ben Dinsmore grew close.

"We were attached at the hip, thick and thin," Dinsmore said.

Their family had cabins in the national forest in Idaho.

"Growing up, Army was our favorite game," Dinsmore said. "We would find a stick shaped like a gun and play."

Both of their fathers had served in the Vietnam War. Dinsmore said their families did not push the military on them, but even from a young age, he and Kirk understood their fathers' service and what it meant.

"I remember that in every picture of him from when he was 5 until he was 16 or 17, he did this super hero stance," Sohner said of her brother.

Dinsmore said Kirk was always a natural leader.

As a young man, Kirk returned to Maine and lived with his aunt Peggy in Rockport. Kirk received his GED diploma April 28, 2004, from the Five Town Community School District Adult Education Program in Camden.

His GED teacher Kristan Gould of South Thomaston said that while some students didn't want to be in class, Kirk was a little older and was always willing to work. She added that he was a really nice guy.

Kirk also attended Southern Maine Community College. He worked for a time with his father in the carpentry business locally, family members said.

His aunt Peggy Kirk Rogers of Rockport said Kirk lived with her for three years when he returned to Maine.

"It was a blessing to have him here with me at this time," she said in an e-mail.

She said that during his stay with her, her own son was in Iraq for his first tour of duty. She said Kirk was very supportive of her son and the troops.

"One night he came to me and said, 'I feel like I need to go over there and do my part,'" she said. "It was a desire that never left him. He certainly will be remembered for not only doing his part, but giving the ultimate sacrifice of all, his life. He was a caring person and helpful man, a lot like his father, and I know his father would have been very proud of him."

She added that Kirk comes from a long line of military men on both sides of the family.

"He was very proud of the family men who served before him," Rogers said. "After 9/11, our country was in war, and this did affect Josh and the rest of the country."

Kirk was living in Maine when he enlisted in the military. He was about 25 years old at the time, according to family members.

Dinsmore said he knew Kirk went to school and was working in construction first, but it did not surprise him that Kirk joined the Army.

"I felt he came to a crossroads in his own life, and the Army was the best choice," Dinsmore said.

Kirk's first tour in Afghanistan lasted 15 months. During that time he lost some of his fellow soldiers in the fighting. Family members said this experience moved him deeply.

Sohner said the last time she saw her brother was about two years ago when their father, John Kirk, died at Christmas time.

"He was a changed man," she said. "He had grown up. He had seen, you know? He had seen death with his own eyes. He wasn't the silly little kid he had always been."

Joshua Kirk was serving his second tour at the time of his death. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, in Fort Carson, Colo. He had left for his second tour in May.

"He went back because he had a passion," Sohner said.

She said that when he decided to re-enlist, his mother and wife were extremely upset.

"He made a commitment. This was his life," his sister said.

"He was planning on making the Army a career," Dinsmore said. "He loved what he did. He wanted to be there."

Dinsmore said he was blessed in that he got to spend some time with Kirk in April before he left for his second tour.

Kirk confided in Dinsmore that in some ways, he felt closer to some of the men he had served with in Afghanistan than anyone else because of what they had been through together.

"They were truly brothers," Dinsmore said. "They had bled and sweat and cried together."

"He said, when it hit the fan, when you were taking enemy fire, everything went away but you and your buddy," Dinsmore said. "All that matters is you and your buddy staying alive."

Both Kirk's father and his uncle, Dinsmore's father, had served during the Vietnam War. His uncle had a chance to talk to Kirk about it and acknowledged that Afghanistan was Kirk's version of Vietnam.

Kirk, who worked as a scout in the Army, told his family at one point he was engaging the enemy on a weekly basis.

Kirk's camp was at the bottom of a valley with mountains ranging above it in all directions, Dinsmore said.

Dinsmore said that put Kirk's forces at a tactical disadvantage.

Dinsmore said the last e-mail Kirk sent out said they were planning to move out of that location soon.

The base was attacked before plans to withdraw from that post had been carried out.

Sohner said her brother sent an e-mail to the family before he died indicating that his men really needed help.

She said his men did not have the weapons to match the rocket-propelled grenades used by the Taliban forces.

"We failed them," she said.

Published reports describe the base as being isolated and located in the Kamdesh district of Nuristan province in northeastern Afghanistan.

The Los Angeles Times reported Oct. 10 that the base has been abandoned since the battle in which eight U.S. soldiers were killed by Taliban forces.

NATO's International Security Assistance Force said this was part of a previously planned repositioning of troops. The Taliban is claiming a victory, according to the Los Angeles times.

While eight U.S. soldiers and at least four Afghan troops were killed, according to the report, 100 of the Taliban attackers were killed in the battle.

Dinsmore pointed out that even with a force of 300 Taliban fighters, about 60 U.S. soldiers were able to hold out. "Tragic as it is, they were outnumbered, outmanned, but they were still able to fend that off and hold their ground," Dinsmore said.

He said that shows the professionalism and the grit of the U.S. military. He said he has seen reports that during the battle, soldiers would stop and give blood transfusions to the wounded and then go back to the firefight.

"These guys are the heroes," he said.

He said soldiers need to be given what they need or be pulled out.

"While the old men are talking, the young men are dying," he said.

Sohner said the war does not get the attention it should. She said eight years later, people need to remember the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Tucson Soldier Killed In Afghanistan Battle



Sgt. Justin T. Gallegos

Oct. 7, 2009 By Jordan Johnson, The Arizona Republic

A Tucson man was one of eight soldiers killed in Afghanistan after a 12-hour battle at his outpost in the Nuristan province on Saturday, the Department of Defense confirmed Wednesday.

Sgt. Justin T. Gallegos died from wounds suffered in the attack. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo., just outside of Colorado Springs.

Hundreds of insurgents attacked the outpost with small arms, rocket-propelled grenades and indirect fires during the deadliest assault on U.S. forces in more than a year. More than 100 insurgents died. The Pentagon announced after the attack that commanders were already making plans to abandon the outpost because of limited resources.

Gallegos joined the Army in May 2003 and deployed to Iraq for his first tour in November 2005, and again in March 2007 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His final deployment was to Afghanistan in May 2009 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Gallegos was honored with numerous awards, including two Purple Hearts. His family was notified that he will be awarded a third Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his final efforts in Afghanistan.

Bessie Guadiana-Hoffman, a close friend and boss of Gallegos' mother, spoke on behalf of the family. "Justin and all of the men that were there that day had the same heart and gave the ultimate sacrifice," she said.

Justin Gallegos worked for Guadiana-Hoffman at her manufacturing company for two years beginning in 2002. She remembers him as dedicated worker.

"He was a gung-ho young individual who enjoyed order and continuity," Guadiana-Hoffman said. "He was a leader and a take-charge individual. Justin is a big void to fill."

Gallegos was moving up quickly in the Army and was about to become a staff sergeant, Guadiana-Hoffman said.

Gallegos left behind a 5-year-old son who she said was "the joy of his life."

"He was a wonderful father and the greatest gift in his life was his son," Guadiana-Hoffman said.

Gallegos attended Tucson High Magnet School and graduated from one of Tucson's alternative high schools called Aztec Middle College at the West Pima Campus in December 2000.

"We are proud he was a student at our school at one time," Tucson High Magnet School Principal Abel Morado said. "Our condolences go out to the family and service members who are currently serving our country."

He added both schools would most likely organize a memorial event in the near future in honor of Gallegos. "We honor and respect the service that Mr. Gallegos gave to our country," Morado said.

A group called "Remembering our fallen brother" was created on Facebook in honor of Gallegos and his service in the Army. Almost 100 people have already joined to pay their respects.

Gallegos is survived by his mother, younger brother, two sisters and his 5-year-old son.

"Once he made a decision, no one could sway his determination," Guadiana-Hoffman said. "To the very last second, he was probably thinking of his fellow servicemen."

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

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

Savannah Family Grieves Loss Of Soldier



Staff Sgt. Vernon Martin

October 9, 2009 By Pamela E. Walck, Savannah Morning News

Connie Brown started to worry when she heard reports of soldiers from northern Georgia who died earlier this summer in fierce fire fights against the Taliban in the remote mountains of Afghanistan.

The Savannah resident's son, Staff Sgt. Vernon Martin, also was serving in Afghanistan, on his second combat tour with the 4th Infantry Division based out of Fort Carson, Colo.

Her heart went out to those fellow Georgians who overnight became grieving mothers and fathers of service members killed in action.

Then Capt. Matthew Freeman, 29, of Richmond Hill, died Aug. 7 in Kapisa province.

"I said, 'Oh, that is too close to home,'" Brown said. "And now, it is home."

Her son died Saturday, at the age of 25, when enemy forces attacked his unit's contingency outpost in Kamdesh, Afghanistan, with small arms, rocket-propelled grenades and indirect fire. Brown's son was one of eight soldiers who died that day.

"It's been hard," Brown said. "You have your good days and bad days. I guess the only advice I'd have for (parents) is love your children and take plenty of pictures."

Brown said it was a family practice to end every conversation with "I love you."

It was a ritual mother and son continued up until what would be their final phone conversation, Sept. 29.

"He said they were getting ready to move on Monday (Oct. 5)," Brown said. "But they got attacked on Saturday."

The grieving mother said media reports of the attack and Department of Defense explanations have varied.

Brown said she was told as many as 300 Taliban fighters attacked her son's outpost, which was staffed with about 80 coalition forces - including about 30 Afghani police.

"My question is were there any infantrymen there at the camp with them?" she said, noting her son was a light-wheel mechanic for the Army.

"I'm not blaming anyone, that's wasted energy as far as I'm concerned. I have a daughter-in-law and three grandkids that my energy has to go on, but you have those questions."

In addition to his mother, Martin is survived by his wife, Brittany Akeya Murray Martin; son, Nasim, 6; two daughters, Zakiyah, 4, and Chastity, 2; older brother, Joseph Steward, of New York; and sister, Vanessa Jackson, of Savannah; as well as uncles, aunts, nieces and nephews.

Gamble Funeral Service of Savannah is handling arrangements.

Funeral Director Ed Gamble said, as of late Thursday afternoon, he still was waiting on final word from officials in Dover, Md., as to when the family could expect to receive Martin's remains.

Gamble noted arrangements have been made in advance for the remains to receive an escort by the Chatham County Sheriff's Department from Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport to the Stephenson Avenue funeral home.

From an early age, Brown said, her son had a heart for troubled kids.

The middle child knew what it was like to grow up in a single-parent household, and held a special place in his heart for kids in similar situations.

"He was the jokester for sure, and he could be a pain in the neck at times," Brown said. "But he wasn't a bad kid. ... He didn't give me problems like a lot of parents had."

Despite his love for laughter, Brown said, her son had a strong sense of direction.

By the time he was 18, Martin was working as a juvenile corrections officer at the Chatham County Youth Detention Center.

Already the father of a 2-year-old - and with another child on the way - her son saw the military as a way to better support his growing family, Brown said.

"He was trying to look out for his family. But it was hard. I didn't want him to go. It was just after 9/11, and everybody knew we were at war.

"All I could say is, 'Boy, you're going to quit a good job and go into service, are you crazy?'"

But Martin was determined.

He went through basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., then served a 12-month station assignment in South Korea.

He returned stateside to Fort Carson, where six months later he left on a yearlong deployment to Iraq.

He came home in December 2007 and remained stateside for a year and a half.

"It was the first time he was home long enough to see all three of his kids' birthdays," Brown said. "When you look at things now, and how things happened and lined up, it was almost like there was something there."

FUTILE EXERCISE: ALL HOME NOW!



Afghanistan: Tyler Hicks: The New York Times

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

TROOP NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



A British military firefighter helps an injured U.S. Marine walk to a waiting ambulance after he was dropped off by a medevac helicopter team from the U.S. Army's Task Force Talon, at Camp Bastion, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Oct. 23, 2009. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

IVAW Fundraiser: New York City Friday, October 30th 6:00-10:00PM



R & R @ Pom Gallery in SOHO

Resistance & Reparations

IVAW Fundraiser to Support G.I. Resistance & Iraqi Art

Pomegranate Gallery
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Enjoy stunning works by contemporary Iraqi artists at the Pomegranate Gallery in Soho and support our GI resistance movement.

Event Info:

6:00-7:30 PM	Reception
7:30-8:30 PM	Program
8:30 - 9:30 PM	Live Music & Networking

- *Victor Agosto, IVAW Board Member, Iraq Veteran & Afghanistan War Resister**
- * Rick Reyes, IVAW Member and Afghanistan Veteran**
- *Special Guest: Survivor from Hiroshima, Japan**
- * Open Bar with beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages**
- *Hors d'oeuvres**

Tickets:

To Reserve Tickets Click Here:

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Every ticket bearer of \$1000 will receive the two books mentioned above, a "I Support IVAW" t-shirt and gift certificate to a local spa, yoga studio or restaurant.

Every ticket bearer of \$500 will receive the two books mentioned above and a "I Support IVAW" t shirt.

Every ticket bearer of \$250 will receive both books mentioned above and a copy of the DVD Sir! No Sir!

Every ticket bearer of \$100 will receive a signed copy of David Cortight's book Soldiers in Revolt or IVAW's Winter Soldier.

IVAW National Office - 630 9th Ave Suite 807 New York, NY 10036 –
Phone 646.723.0989
Fax 646.723.0996
ivaw@ivaw.org

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**

Organizing For Beginners: “Fiat Workers Were At First Skeptical Of The Intellectuals And Students” “What The Fuck, I’ve Got Nothing To Lose, I’ll Go And See What These Turds Have To Say”

[Excerpt from “1969: Italy’s Hot Autumn” By William Keach, International Socialist Review September-October 2009.]

For several months small groups of students from the University of Turin had been handing out leaflets at the factory gates and talking to workers going off shift.

In May, members of a Marxist group called Potere Operaio (Workers’ Power) that had been active in the late 1960s in the industrial area near Venice arrived in Turin, along with student militants from Rome, Milan, and Turin itself who had joined Potere Operaio and were contributing to a new journal called La Classe (The Class).

Fiat workers were at first skeptical of the intellectuals and students in Potere Operaio.

But as one young worker from the south, Alfonso Natella, is quoted as saying: “What the fuck, I’ve got nothing to lose, I’ll go and see what these turds have to say.”

The workerist focus on higher wages and slower work rhythms seems to have made sense.

Natella went on to say: “At times we had failed to understand each other or agree because each of us was used to speaking in a particular way...

“Finally, however, in deeds, in the fact that we had made the struggle, we could all speak in the same way.

"We discovered that we all had the same needs, the same necessities, and that is was these that made us all equal in struggle."

Meals On Wheels At The G-20



Just outside the left of the picture, was a sign on a light pole that read: No Parking, Meals on Wheels 10:00AM-1:00PM. (True Story)

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: October 23, 2009
Subject: Meals On Wheels At The G-20

Meals On Wheels At The G-20

**Garbage dumpsters flying down the
hill at the cops.
Tear gas everywhere.
The fear of guns and clubs around every corner.
High frequency technology screaming
in your ears.
I can hear the cops on the loud speakers:
"This is an illegal assembly."
Eyes burning from the gas,
tears and snot streaming down my face.
Click-click-click-click-click.....
Nikon motordrives on full throttle.
I hear someone yell:
"If we don't stop Empire here,
they will eventually break down our doors."**

I saw U.S. democracy in Vietnam,
as our 155mm Howitzers fired into
free-fire zones.

The U.S. broke the law everyday in Vietnam.

The only good Gook was a dead Gook.

While Empire arrests the Anarchists,
and call them terrorists,

the United States Government continues
to murder innocent human beings in the
Middle East.

My greatest awareness after returning from Vietnam,
was the realization that I was the enemy in Vietnam.

Took my belief system and threw it into a dumpster.

Reincarnation is such sweet justice.

Mike Hastie

U.S. Army Medic

Vietnam 1970-71

October 23, 2009

Photo and caption from the I-R-A-Q (I Remember Another Quagmire) portfolio of
Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work,
contact at: (hastiemike@earthlink.net) T)

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

CLASS WAR REPORTS



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

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

“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

Military Resistance www.militaryproject.org

*This is how Obama brings the troops home,
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.*



*Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members
www.militaryproject.org*

OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION ALL TROOPS HOME NOW!

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://williamsbowles.info/gispecial/2008/index.html>; news@uruknet.info;

http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/

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