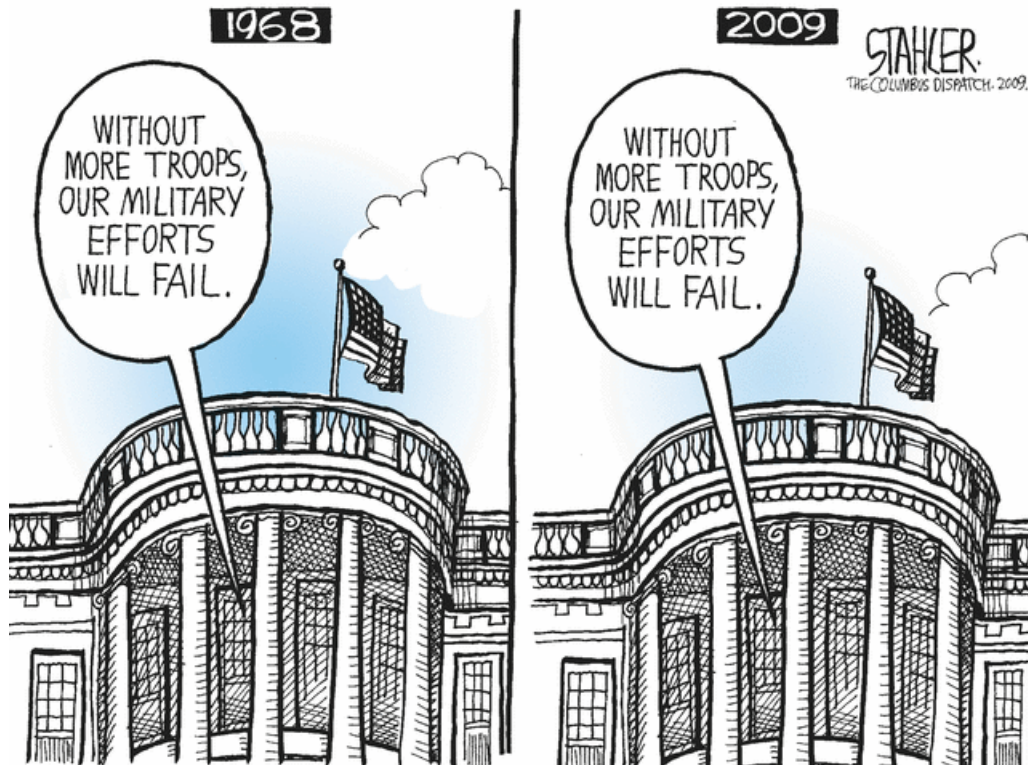


Military Resistance 7J7 [GI Special]



[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in.]

AFTER THE DEMONIZATION OF HERMAN MUNSTER

From: Dennis Serdel
To: Military Resistance
Sent: October 08, 2009
Subject: After The Demonization Of Herman Munster:
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

AFTER THE DEMONIZATION OF HERMAN MUNSTER

In this jack-off country we live in
with it's thin veneer
called democracy,
Herman lives inside, inside a cage,
a P.O.W. in a manmade hell
called a factory,
a fascist invention
after, after the Vietnam War.

After, after 11 months in Vietnam
Herman's cup is filled
one day when his Texas
truck driving, cattle hauling
shit flying, ex-friend Dallas
the machine gunner
takes it in the forehead.
They lock poor Herman
and a thousand more
inside, inside a cage, a cell
called an insane asylum.

A psychiatrist glues
his brain back together
and slips him
into a coffin, a body bag
called a uniform.
Go home now, the doctor
whispers, go home
go home, go home.

IT WAS THE FALL OF 1968

and the war protesters
look down their noses
and Herman drops to his knees
and begs for forgiveness
while they stone him.
Then in a vision,
a psychedelic dream,

a marijuana haze, a "purple haze"
Jesus appears before Herman
and lays his hands on him,
but they still look down on him
as Jesus appears
through a glass darkly
and He spoke
with their mouths, in their tongues
as they gaze transfixed, drugged
they said to themselves
we were wrong, we were right
were wrong
three times.

HERMAN STARTS TO TALK

awaken, become alive
these days about the war,
as any sane man
who's really seen war,
he hates war.
Hell, he even joins
Veterans For Peace.
Now and then though,
he has flashbacks
about the dirty little war,
the conflict within,
the undeclared war,
the Vietnam War
opportunistic people.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW MY SON ?

Herman wonders.....
did you get a job
in marketing, vote Conservative
after student demonstration
time?
Do you listen, listen to Rush-Rush Limbaugh
while talking, talking
big bisinness
on your car phone
in your Cadillac-lac
after the Big Chill,
the big thrill
classic rock?
Does your flapping flag fly

whichever way the wind blows?
Did you paste a yellow ribbon
over the peace sign ?

DID YOU VOTE

for Danny Quayle
and Billy Clinton
or the Chaney little boy
because that is what you did?
Did you cut your hair
go on to three piece suit things?
Do you sell crack
to the blacks
and let them take the fall?
Did you have another conversation or
is this the way you are
all the time?
Is it too risky on the front lines
now my son,
do bullets fly too close?

DO YOU SNORT THE GRATEFUL DEAD

inside your lily white
cocaine limousine?

HERMAN DECLARES WAR

“You’ve got a lot of nerve
to say you are my friend.”
Come out, come out
where ever you are
or is this just a game
to look down your nose
or give the cold shoulder to again?

HERMAN HAS ANOTHER CONVERSATION

No, no
I shall never
ever become like you,
instead I shall remain true to myself

and join the chosen few
the remaining few
who
AGITATE EDUCATE and ORGANIZE

Since then, Herman has met a lot of
very beautiful, sincere peace people.

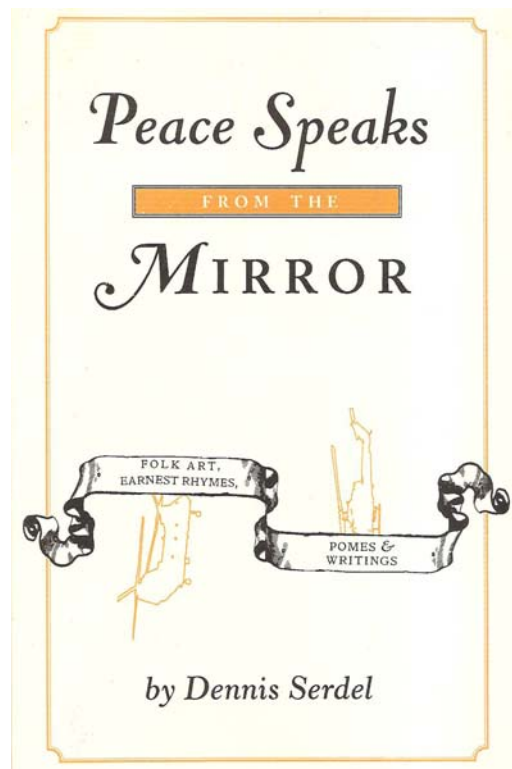
People call them radicals.

That's all,
that's all
there is
to
it.

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]



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.

Books are \$15 Post Paid:

Check or Money Order Payable to Dennis Serdel

Dennis Serdel
339 Oakwood Lane
Perry,
Michigan 48872

Walt Whitman
Carl Sandburg
Allan Ginsberg
Dennis Serdel
T

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

**So Much For That Liberated Iraq
Bullshit:
Citizens Denied Right To Vote On
Continuing The U.S. Military
Occupation:
“If Iraqi Voters Were Given A Chance To
Vote On The Deal Some U.S. Officials
Feared They Would Reject It, Forcing An
Accelerated U.S. Withdrawal”**

[Thanks to Michael Letwin, New York City Labor Against The War & Military Project, who sent this in.]

OCTOBER 5, 2009 By Gina Chon, Wall St. Journal [Excerpts]

BAGHDAD -- Iraqi politicians say they have put aside for the time being any plans to push for a referendum on the U.S.-Iraqi security pact governing the American troop pullout here.

The threat of a referendum had clouded U.S. withdrawal plans.

If Iraqi voters were given a chance to vote on the deal some U.S. officials feared they would reject it, forcing an accelerated U.S. withdrawal.

The security pact calls for all American troops to be out of Iraq by the end of 2011. When the security treaty was approved, Sunni lawmakers insisted on a referendum as a condition of their support. Originally scheduled for last July, it was delayed.

Many observers suspected it might never happen.

But in August, Iraq's cabinet set a new date of Jan. 16, coinciding with nationwide parliamentary polls. A "no" vote on the deal would trigger a termination clause, speeding up a full American troop withdrawal by almost a year.

Lawmakers said Sunday there weren't any moves afoot to push through legislation authorizing the referendum.

That, they say, means it will either be delayed once again, or dropped altogether.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Soldier Dies In Action In Afghanistan

October 3, 2009 THE DAILY NEWS JOURNAL

For the second time in two weeks, a Rutherford County family, friends and a community is mourning the loss of a son killed in action in Afghanistan.

Spc. Russell S. Hercules Jr., 22, of Murfreesboro was killed in action Thursday in Warduck province in Afghanistan when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire, according to the Defense Department. A Fort Campbell news release said Hercules was Combat Outpost Garda in the Nerkh District of Afghanistan when he was killed.

"We're just devastated," said Blackman Principal Gail Vick. "We just found out about it around 4 p.m. (Friday). We're proud of what he did for his country. "As the Blackman family, we're deeply saddened, and our hearts go out to his family and friends."

Players, fans and others held a moment of silence for Hercules prior to Friday night's football game against Siegel.

Hercules is believed to be a 2006 graduate of Blackman. He is survived by his parents, Russell Hercules of Winchester and Cheryl Tipton of Murfreesboro, sister Jessica, wife Victoria, step-daughter Candence, and infant son Christopher, who was born in July, according to a family member in Winchester who did not wish to be quoted.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Woodfin Memorial Chapel. Fort Campbell will hold an Eagle Remembrance ceremony in November.

Hercules was an infantryman and a member of F Company, 4th Battalion, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) out of Fort Campbell, Ky.

The soldier began his final journey home Friday, said Annette Robeck, who is the Tennessee state captain of the Patriot Guard.

An honor guard unloaded him off the plane in Dover Air Force Base in Dover, Del., around 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time and took him into the mortuary there, Robeck said, adding members of deceased soldier's families are transported there at the Army's expense for the process.

Michelle Lange, whose husband served with Hercules, e-mailed The Daily News Journal to say that the family is "incredibly appreciative of the support they have received. ... (The couple) recently married and have a beautiful 4-month-old son."

Lange, who is part of a Welcome Home Committee, said Hercules was able to come home on his R&R to see his son's birth and visit with his daughter.

She said her husband described Hercules as a wonderful soldier and "his heart goes out to his family."

Soldiers with Hercules' unit held a memorial in his honor Friday before sending him home to his family, she added. No other soldier was injured in the incident.

She said the unit is working to provide food and essentials for the family.

She said Hercules' loss has deeply affected the rest of the soldiers as they are in their final stretch before coming home.

He is the first 159th CAB soldier to be killed in combat since the brigade deployed last December. Another 159th CAB soldier, Pfc. Ashley Barnes-Lambert, 18, died in February in Clarksville while home on mid-tour leave. Barnes-Lambert was allegedly killed by her husband, Khaleefa Lambert, who has been charged in her death.

Hercules is the second local soldier to die in the past two weeks as a result of combat-related activity in Afghanistan.

Spc. Corey Kowall, a 2007 graduate of Siegel High School, was killed Sept. 20 while serving with the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division while in Afghanistan. He was buried with full military honors at Roselawn Memorial Gardens on Monday.

This report compiled by DNJ Senior Content Editor Gary Frazier, staff writers Mark Bell and Jared Hastings, The (Clarksville) Leaf Chronicle's Jake Lowary and Associated Press reports.

Lance Cpl. John Malone, Killed In Afghanistan, Was Anxious To Go Home



Marine John Malone

September 26th 2009 BY Christina Boyle, DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lance Cpl. John Malone had seen his share of action in Iraq.

But it was the more recent deployment filled with a series of close calls in Afghanistan that made the Westchester Marine fear for his life.

Malone, 24, a graduate of Gorton High School in Yonkers, e-mailed a pal on Tuesday - just two days before his death - to say he was anxious to return home.

"When he was in Iraq, it seemed like he felt a lot more safe, and everything seemed better," Josh Blumenstetter, 24, told the Journal News.

Malone, who grew up in Putnam County, died of gunshot wounds while on patrol in Farah Province in western Afghanistan Thursday, friends said. He was scheduled to return home on leave in a matter of weeks. He had been in Afghanistan since May.

His brother, Darryl, broke the news to friends with a text message saying simply: "John's gone."

Malone served in Iraq last year and was a machine gunner with the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force based out of the Marine Corps Base in Hawaii.

Loved ones paid tribute to the decorated soldier who, they said, made everyone feel good.

“You would never have a bad day because he would always make you smile,” Zahara Majeed, 21, told the Journal News.

“He loved (the Marines),” she added.

“It changed him. He got to see the world, something that he was never going to do if he never got into the military.”

Malone had been in Afghanistan since May and loved to write and produce his own songs.

“He was one of the most popular guys in town. Everybody loved him,” said his pal’s father, Charles Blumenstetter.

“He was just a polite young man and very friendly. ... (His friends) said John would just light up the room.”

Marco Kilcawley, 22, from Columbia, S.C., served alongside Malone in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“He was an all-around good Marine,” he said. “He made everyone happy, even when we were around the field cold and miserable.”

Malone’s awards include a Purple Heart, a National Defense Service Medal and an Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

Va. Beach Soldier ‘Stood Proud’ In Service

September 27, 2009 By Martin Weil, Washington Post Staff Writer

Sandy Mahoney remembered the day William L. Meredith came back to Virginia Beach from Army basic training, wearing his uniform.

“He just stood proud,” she said.

On Wednesday, the Pentagon announced that Pfc. Meredith, 26, of Virginia Beach died two days before in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Meredith died from injuries he received when a bomb exploded near his vehicle, the Pentagon said.

As a teenager, Meredith attended Ocean Lakes High School. Another student there was Sandy Mahoney’s son, Chris. The two were also members of a youth group and

volunteered at a retirement home. He enjoyed video games and music. The heavy metal band Tool, Sandy Mahoney said, was Meredith's favorite.

After his father moved from the area, Mahoney said, Meredith wanted to stay with his friends, so he lived with her family for several years.

Mahoney got a bunk bed for her son's bedroom, and Chris and William were quartered there, arguing regularly about who would sleep in the upper bunk. "Nobody wanted to sleep in the top," she said.

After they fell asleep, she said, "they never got up for school." It was up to her to drive them to school every day. But she gave one-way transportation. After school, they walked home.

"He was no bother," Mahoney said Friday night. His father had raised "a wonderful young man."

After leaving school without graduating, he worked for a time and got his general equivalency diploma and his driver's license. Then, she said, he was on his way, out into the wider world.

He was assigned to the 569th Engineer Company, 4th Engineer Battalion, Fort Carson, Colo. The battalion was assigned to detect and remove roadside bombs like the one that caused his death.

According to an Associated Press account, he received the Bronze Star Medal and the Combat Action Badge, awarded for facing the enemy in combat.

Mahoney said Meredith "was probably the most well-mannered young man that I knew."

Fort Carson Soldier Dies In Afghanistan



Sgt. David Davis died Saturday in Afghanistan. Army Photo

September 22, 2009 TOM ROEDER, THE GAZETTE

A Fort Carson soldier died Saturday in an insurgent mortar attack on an American base in Afghanistan, the Pentagon announced this morning.

Sgt. David A. Davis, 28, of Dalhart, Texas, died at Bagram Airfield north of Kabul. He was assigned to the 43rd Sustainment Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

The sustainment brigade provides everything from bullets to fuel to soldiers on the front lines. Davis was assigned to the 32nd Transportation Company, which uses heavy trucks to haul cargo to units on the battlefield.

Davis joined the Army in 2001 and was trained as a truck driver. He served two tours in Iraq before deploying to Afghanistan in April.

In past wars, soldiers like Davis stayed behind the battle as they trucked the tools of war to the front. In Iraq and Afghanistan, a roiling insurgency has thrust support troops to the forefront of battle as convoys and logistics bases like Bagram Airfield have become key targets.

Davis was decorated twice with the Army Commendation Medal and had also earned the Army Achievement Medal.

Five Fort Carson soldiers have died this month, including four killed in Afghanistan.

The post has lost 269 soldiers in fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan including 21 killed this year.

Australian Soldier Wounded in Clash With Taliban

Oct. 11 By Michael Heath, Bloomberg

An Australian soldier was wounded during a firefight with Taliban militants in Afghanistan, the Department of Defence said.

Australian and Afghan troops were conducting operations in southern Afghanistan yesterday when they were engaged by militants and the soldier was injured, the department said in a statement today. The soldier is in a stable condition, it added.

Eight U.S. Soldiers Were Killed By A “Tribal Militia” Attack On COP Keating:

“Unclear Why The Tribal Militia Attacked, And Whether It Has A Relationship With Afghan Insurgents”

OCTOBER 5, 2009 By ANAND GOPAL, The Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

KABUL -- Eight American troops and two Afghan soldiers were killed during a firefight in a remote part of Afghanistan on Saturday, in one of the worst single-day battlefield losses for U.S. forces since the war began.

On Saturday, a tribal militia in the province of Nuristan launched an attack from a mosque and a village near the Afghan-Pakistani border, said Muhammad Farouq, the provincial security chief.

It was unclear why the tribal militia attacked, and whether it has a relationship with Afghan insurgents.

However, insurgents in the area have the support of locals, Afghan government and U.S. military officials said.

“It’s very hard to separate the population from the insurgency there,” said Lt. Ryan Keogh, who previously was stationed in an area near the region where the firefight took place.

“The population backs the insurgents and often acts in conjunction with them.”

MORE:

The Attack As Seen From The Inside Looking Out

By Tammy: This is a REALLY LONG POST — this came directly from my husband, SGT Daddy (with some minor edits from me for OPSEC reasons)

Written by SGT Daddy (2009 Oct 6) Armyhousehold6.com

The morning began with the siren signaling incoming. I ignored it. I hate putting on my gear and besides the big boy voice had dutifully reminded me that I should remain in hard shelter.

I didn’t argue by deed or word.

In the meantime the 155’s began to blaze away in support of some action that did not affect me.

Later I was called out of my room to help in the aid station.

Two of the COB (combat operations base) were in the midst of a full on assault by the Taliban.

Rumor had it they had made it inside the wire signaled by claymores just outside the gate exploding in response to encroachment.

Later some treated would say that some of the Afghan Army had turned their weapons on them.

I quickly changed and found the Aid Station in the midst of preparations. The toll was 12 casualties coming in with 5 KIA. This would later be amended to 15 counting Afghan forces. I was in the way and ill prepared to offer much assistance but did whatever I was instructed to.

I was asked if I could be a recorder, that is to record the ongoing medical treatment of a casualty at a specific bed, I dutifully answered yes.

I had reservations. The only MasCal I'd ever experienced was in JRTC, did this make me ready? I would find out but not for hours.

The fighting was ongoing and in answer of support the 155's ceased only to be replaced by jet after jet as well as rotary support.

I knew it must be bad just seeing the amount of firepower flying in to make defense of our troops. The area had to be secured in order to enable evacuation of the wounded by Blackhawk.

Later SGT S would relay to me that he had word of a billion dollars worth of munitions being dropped to that end. Familiar faces showed up in support of the effort as well. Tom, an Army Doc with some other providers arrived in support.

When word finally came that the first to be evacuated were on the way over 9 hours had passed.

The number of wounded remained the same meaning that these guys had held on all day, some with horrible injuries.

All day soldiers had been waiting dutifully outside to help the ambulatory patients while the litter of patients would brought directly to the aid station. The big boy voiced beckoned those that were a specific blood type report to the aid station.

Later those that were CLS (combat life support) certified were called in support of those we would soon be treating.

Finally word came that the first medevac had come in. I was asked to tag the casualties as they came in order to track them.

The first litter patient came in and there was no time to affix the wrist band so I followed him back. My heart was racing. I put the bracelet on quickly and got the hell out of the way as the FST began quickly in a measured fashion working on the patient.

I think he was American.

I hurried back to the door as the next patient was coming in. It was an Afghan Army Soldier. I again followed the casualty to affix his bracelet. I again met the next patient at the door. It was another Afghan soldier. He could walk but he had to be guided in as his was face bandaged up. With shaking hands I put on the bracelet. The medics got him on a stretcher and began assessing his wounds.

SPFC H would later recount how the soldier had taken shrapnel to the face and lost both eyes, his nose and some of his lip.

The next casualties coming in were to be all ambulatory. Some of us had 5 minutes to collect ourselves. For most it meant cleaning up and resetting for the due in casualties. For the FST, it continued to be a fight to save a soldiers life.

The next casualties arrived and I was tasked to record. SGT A would treat and I would try to relay in shorthand what he was doing and what the soldier had suffered.

Throughout the night it shocked me how calm these patients were. Had I sustained these injuries I would have been beside myself. I reminded myself that they had had hours to reconcile to some degree what had happened to them.

Our patient had been peppered by shrapnel on his left side, from is face down to his thigh. His left arm had been fractured as well.

His response to all of this was calm and information. He told us that he'd been shot in the forearm a previous deployment. Once he was appropriately cared for I remember the call coming for people to perform CPR.

SGT M told me later the First American brought in went into cardiac arrest.

He'd gone back to perform CPR to no avail.

The docs cracked his chest and began massaging his heart. He didn't make it.

The next patient to come through that I saw was another Afghan Army. He had major damage to his right arm. They removed his bandages and they immediately wept blood. He had chunks missing from his arm. The closest I can approximate the injury to is the effect a melon baller has on a cantaloupe. That is was his arm looked like.

I was then called by name to my surprise to assist with a new situation. Wow I was needed specifically.

To my dread, Capt P was having issues with the X-Ray plate reader. I secretly hoped was a simple problem with a simple solution. At first it appeared that way.

The CPT explained that that the plate was not being brought into the machine for exposure. When I went to grab the plate it fell into the machine and naturally the x-ray was spoiled due to it's high velocity delivery. The plate had not been fed in correctly and my hands had dislodged it allowing gravity to deliver the plate unceremoniously onto the carriage. A grinding noise ensued and what might've been a simple problem was exacerbated. A grinding motor came in response to the melee that had just ensued.

I grabbed my tools and began disassembling the unit while fielding questions of the unit's operability. It was out of commission until I could resolve the issue. This scared the hell out of me.

Up to this point I knew all I had to do was my best but that ultimately the lives of the injured rested squarely on the shoulders of the medics and doctors. I was flustered and had no idea if I could remedy the situation; after all I had worked on such a machine only once previously. I stopped and thought, long enough to realize I was taking apart the backside. The motor is to front left, this is where I needed to be!

I took my queue from the medics and began working at a measured pace. Once I opened the unit up seeing what I needed to see I quickly diagnosed the problem and fixed the unit.

While still reassembling the unit the reader was again back in use. One patient had to be sent back out to another facility with the x-ray down. The Afghan Army soldier with the injured arm needed immediate attention.

I was relieved at my success and also that all eyes were no longer on me. I had never been in such a situation and came out no worse for wear.

In the end, it had become more of a group effort than I had anticipated. I had counted on the medical folks to handle everything. While I know I by no means saved the day - it was gratifying to see a real need for my skills. In the end I don't think I'd have managed so well if I had not witnessed the controlled chaos. Throughout everything, I witnessed a synergy between all those present. All of the things every one of us learned came in to play and the theoretical use during training came to fruition via an actual event wonderfully successful.

It was an altogether exhausting day, both gratifying and heart wrenching. For my part I will never forget it. For others present it will be perhaps yet another tragedy marked by heartfelt effort.

***Good News For The Afghan
Resistance!!***

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



A foreign occupation soldier from the US Marine publicly humiliates Afghan citizens by ordering to expose their bodies after stopping them at gunpoint on a public road in Farah Province, southern Afghanistan. (AFP/File/David Furst)

Foreign occupation soldiers from the USA make a daily practice of publicly humiliating Afghan citizens. This encourages self-respecting honorable Afghans to kill them.

[Fair is fair. Let's bring 50,000 Afghan troops over here to the USA. They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, butcher their families, overthrow the government, put a new one in office they like better and call it "sovereign," and "detain" anybody who doesn't like it in some prison without any charges being filed against them, or any trial.]

[Those Afghans are sure a bunch of backward primitives. They actually resent this help, have the absurd notion that it's bad their country is occupied by a foreign military dictatorship, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to grab their country.]

[What a bunch of silly people.]

[How fortunate they are to live under a military dictatorship run by Barack Obama. Why, how could anybody not love that? You'd want that in your home town, right?]

ENOUGH OF THIS SHIT; ALL HOME NOW



Soldiers from the U.S. Army's Alfa Company, 3rd brigade of 10th Mountain Division based in Fort Drum, New York, check damage to their armored vehicle after an IED laid by the Taliban exploded along the road near the village of Eber in Logar province September 26, 2009. No one was injured in the incident. REUTERS/Nikola Solic



Marines of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines, on patrol in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Sept. 26, 2009. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)



U.S. Marines of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines, cross an irrigation canal during a patrol in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Sept. 28, 2009. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)



U.S. Marines with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion 5th Marines go on patrol in Nawa district, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Sept. 30, 2009. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)



Soldiers from the U.S. Army's Charlie troop, 371 Cavalry, 3rd brigade of 10th Mountain Division based in Fort Drum, New York, in the Cop Cherokee base at Kherwar district in Logar province October 2, 2009. REUTERS/Nikola Solic

**“The U.S. Doesn’t Have Nearly
Enough Helicopters In
Afghanistan To Meet The Current
Demand For Safe Movement Of
Troops Around The Country”**

**“The Taliban Have Made More And
More Of The Roads Inaccessible To
Us, So The Need For Helicopters
Keeps Growing”**

**[Buried In The Middle Of A Very, Very
Long Report]**

OCTOBER 9, 2009 By PETER SPIEGEL and YOCHI DREAZEN, The Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

Senior Army officers acknowledged in interviews, for instance, that the U.S. doesn't have nearly enough helicopters in Afghanistan to meet the current demand for safe movement of troops around the country.

And U.S. forces are just beginning to receive new vehicles meant to function better on Afghanistan's poor roads.

Lack of helicopters and other equipment problems could present a more intractable problem for a bigger force trying to reach Afghanistan's key battle zones.

The country is mountainous and lacks reliable roads, so most troops and supplies are ferried to their bases aboard helicopters rather than on trucks or other ground vehicles.

Last summer, the Army deployed a second combat aviation brigade to Afghanistan, doubling the number of Army helicopters there from 114 to about 228. But with U.S. troop levels almost doubling in 2009, senior Army officers acknowledge that the U.S. still doesn't have nearly enough.

"Simply put, we just don't have enough birds," one officer said in an interview this week. "The Taliban have made more and more of the roads inaccessible to us, so the need for helicopters keeps growing."

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

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

**NEED SOME TRUTH?
CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

Telling the truth - about the occupations or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance to Imperial wars inside the armed forces.

Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.

If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers. <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/> And join with Iraq Veterans Against the War to end the occupations and bring all troops home now! (www.ivaw.org/)

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

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

TROOP NEWS

The Secretary Of The Army Inspects His Work



Army Secretary John McHugh stands above the casket of Army Staff Sgt. Nekl B. Allen, at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., Oct. 8, 2009. Allen, 29, from Rochester, N.Y., died Sept. 12 in Wardak province, Afghanistan, when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised-explosive device and small arms fire. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS



U.S. soldiers help a comrade wounded during a gun-battle with Taliban fighters in the village of Bargematal, Nuristan province, August 23, 2009. REUTERS/Oleg Popov

Dept. Of Completely Insane Bullshit: “This Is What Ultimately Pushed Me Over The Edge And Made Me Decide To Get Out”

10.12.09
Army Times
Forums

So I put in for a four-day pass this weekend.

Not going out of town, but staying home — five minutes away from post.

Tell me why, before I could submit the pass, I had to attach: 1. A copy of my Leave and Earnings Statement. (To verify how many leave days I have. It's a pass request ... won't be charged leave.)

2. A completed privately operated vehicle inspection sheet. (Despite the fact I'm not leaving town and will drive around the local areas just as I do daily when working.)

3. A strip map to my pass destination. (Even though I am not going anywhere.)

4. And a risk assessment. (Which, in order to get, I had to do the online questionnaire stating how many hours of sleep I'd get prior to "starting my trip," whether I'd pull over and take rest stops, how many miles I intended to travel, etc.)

Sheer insanity.

This might sound small, but crap like this is what ultimately pushed me over the edge and made me decide to get out.

I'll start clearing in 90 days.

— FatCat40

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**

**"While there is a lower class I am in it; while there is a criminal element I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free"
-- Eugene V. Debs**

**"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**

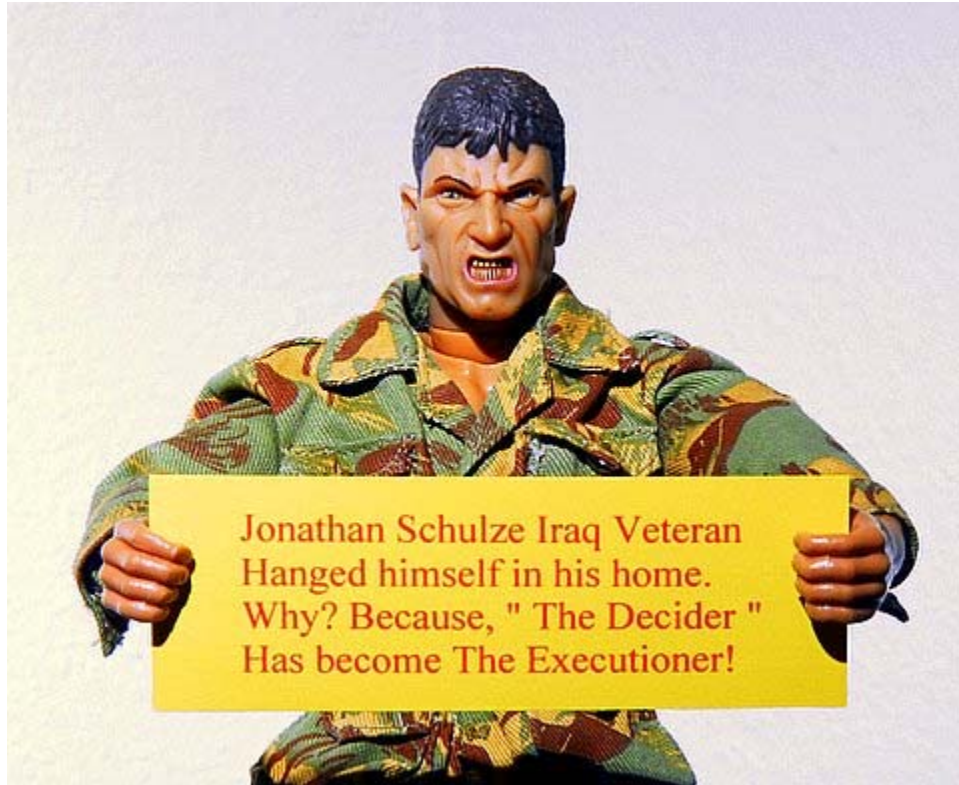
**"When someone says my son died fighting for his country, I say, "No, the suicide bomber who killed my son died fighting for his country."
-- Father of American Soldier Chase Beattie, KIA in Iraq**

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**

**We stand in a moment of time between the eternal past and the eternal future, content that, for us, all that was before and all that will be cannot exist for us, and yet we exist because all that was before us gave us our moment in time, and we will share the responsibility for all that will exist in the eternal future.
-- Abraham Lincoln**

The Decider Has Now Become Obama



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: October 06, 2009
Subject: The Decider Has Now Become Obama

The Decider Has Now Become Obama

The U.S. military has recently reported that hundreds of off-duty Marines, soldiers and sailors have been killed in motorcycle accidents in the past several years.

Accidents?

The U.S. military is now requiring riding lessons, screening riders for risky behavior, and organizing racing events for a safe adrenaline rush.

God I love the fucking military.

Yes, you in the back row....

"Sir, wouldn't it be better if we got out of Iraq and Afghanistan?"

**Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic**

Vietnam 1970-71
October 6, 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



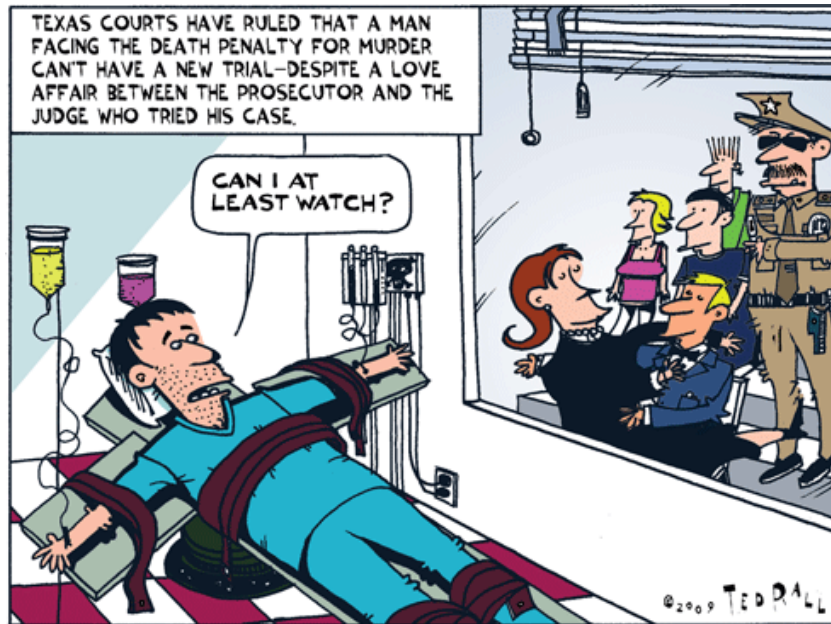
Troops Invited:

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

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email contact@militaryproject.org

CLASS WAR REPORTS



After City Cuts Funds For Tickets, Seattle Bus Drivers Let The Homeless Ride Free; Tent City “Residents Have Started Camping Out On The Lawns Of City Politicians”

October 6, 2009 By Leela Yellesetty, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

The Seattle Housing and Research Effort (SHARE) is a self-organized homeless organization which operates a network of 15 indoor shelters and two tent cities, providing safe shelter for over 550 people in the area.

For many years, the group received a modest \$50,000 annually from the city for bus tickets.

On September 22, these funds were cut off, leaving residents with no way to travel to and from shelters.

In protest, residents have started camping out on the lawns of city politicians.

Their first stop was the lawn of Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels. After that, campers themselves outside Councilman Tim Burgess' house.

As SHARE explained in a statement:

“There are some in the over-privileged strata of society who naively see our actions as a theatrical extortion tactic, which shows how disconnected some people are from the harsh realities of life. Too many Americans are one paycheck away from homelessness. Without transportation, we cannot access our safe place to stay at night. We choose instead to sleep out and protest at the houses of those (the politicians) responsible for our predicament.

“Unsheltered people die outside. Already this year...29 homeless people died outside or by violence. This morning, we just heard of three more deaths which occurred recently, including the death by immolation of a homeless woman in Woodland Park.”

So far, the campouts have proceeded without incident, despite a heavy police presence.

In a show of solidarity, Metro bus drivers agreed to transport campers free of charge, on the promise of being reimbursed as soon as the city restores funding.

SHARE members are meeting with the bus drivers' union in the coming days to discuss more ways to work together.

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

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