

Military Resistance 7K4



**Spc. Adler Gets It Right:
“All The Politicians, You Know,
Civilians, They Just Think, We Will
Just Send Them Over Here”
“It’s Not Going To Work”
“It’s Not A War. You Know, It’s An
Insurgency”**

November 2, 2009 THE SITUATION ROOM, CNN [Excerpts]

SPC. LUKE ADLER, 82ND AIRBORNE: Logistically, I mean, Afghanistan is not ready for all the troops.

CHRIS LAWRENCE, CNN PENTAGON CORRESPONDENT: Specialist Luke Adler says, supplies still don't flow into Afghanistan as fast as they do in Iraq.

It's better now than on his first tour here, but that's not saying much.

ADLER: We had nothing last winter. We had, you know (INAUDIBLE) mounted in our trucks.

LAWRENCE: Adler has come to believe the Taliban can't be wiped out, not in their own country, even with more troops.

ADLER: All the politicians, you know, civilians, they just think, we will just send them over here.

No matter how many troops you throw at it, you can't throw a mass of people here.

It's not going to work.

It's not a war. You know, it's an insurgency.

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed By Something Or Other Somewhere Or Other In Iraq

November 4, 2009 Multi National Corps Iraq Public Affairs Office, Camp Victory
RELEASE No. 20091104-03

Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq – A Multi-National Division – North Soldier died Nov. 4 from combat related injuries.

Seven U.S. Soldiers Wounded As Five Mortar Shells Hit U.S. Baghdad Base

Nov 4 (Reuters)

Five mortar bombs hit the main U.S. base in Baghdad on Tuesday wounding seven U.S. servicemen. Six returned to duty and one was still under care, the U.S. military said.

Remember That Lying Bullshit From The Obama Regime Rats About How U.S. Troops Have Been Withdrawn From Urban Areas?

Wikipedia: “Al Basrah Is The Capital Of Basra Province, And Had An Estimated Population Of 3,800,200 As Of 2009”



A U.S. soldier patrols in Basra, 420 km (260 miles) southeast of Baghdad November 3, 2009. REUTERS/Atef Hassan

Resistance Action Senior Police Officer “Blown Up”

Nov 4 (Reuters) & AFP

A senior Iraqi police officer was killed on Wednesday by a bomb left outside the door of his house at Abu Ghraib, west of Baghdad, a police official in Anbar province said. Colonel Shalal al-Zubay, deputy head of Abu Ghraib police, was blown up as he left home to go to work, the official said.

Three soldiers were hurt when a “sticky” bomb attached to a car blew up near an army checkpoint in the Sunni north Baghdad neighbourhood of Adhamiyah.

A bomb targeting a police patrol in the northern district of Qahira injured four people, including two police officers.

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

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

**Thieving Iraqi Government
Officials Paid \$85 Million To Other
Thieves For Fake Bomb Detectors
That Detect Nothing:
Up To \$60,000 Each Paid For Silly
Pieces Of Cardboard That Work “On
The Same Principle As A Ouija
Board”**

[The Amount Of The Bribes Paid To Maj. Gen. Jehad Al-Jabiri Not Yet Reported]



Useless device that can't detect bombs or anything else at checkpoint. Photo: Johan Spanner for The New York Times

ATSC's promotional material claims that its device can find guns, ammunition, drugs, truffles, human bodies and even contraband ivory at distances up to a kilometer, underground, through walls, underwater or even from airplanes three miles high.

November 3, 2009 By ROD NORDLAND, New York Times [Excerpts]

BAGHDAD — Despite major bombings that have rattled the nation, and fears of rising violence as American troops withdraw, Iraq's security forces have been relying on a device to detect bombs and weapons that the United States military and technical experts say is useless.

The small hand-held wand, with a telescopic antenna on a swivel, is being used at hundreds of checkpoints in Iraq.

But the device works “on the same principle as a Ouija board” — the power of suggestion — said a retired United States Air Force officer, Lt. Col. Hal Bidlack, who described the wand as nothing more than an explosives divining rod.

Still, the Iraqi government has purchased more than 1,500 of the devices, known as the ADE 651, at costs from \$16,500 to \$60,000 each. Nearly every police checkpoint, and many Iraqi military checkpoints, have one of the devices, which are now normally used in place of physical inspections of vehicles.

The American military does not use the devices.

“I don’t believe there’s a magic wand that can detect explosives,” said Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe Jr., who oversees Iraqi police training for the American military. “If there was, we would all be using it. I have no confidence that these work.”

The Iraqis, however, believe passionately in them.

“Whether it’s magic or scientific, what I care about is it detects bombs,” said Maj. Gen. Jehad al-Jabiri, head of the Ministry of the Interior’s General Directorate for Combating Explosives.

Dale Murray, head of the National Explosive Engineering Sciences Security Center at Sandia Labs, which does testing for the Department of Defense, said the center had “tested several devices in this category, and none have ever performed better than random chance.”

The Justice Department has warned against buying a variety of products that claim to detect explosives at a distance with a portable device.

Normal remote explosives detection machinery, often employed in airports, weighs tons and costs hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The ADE 651’s clients are mostly in developing countries; no major country’s military or police force is a customer, according to the manufacturer.

“I don’t care about Sandia or the Department of Justice or any of them,” General Jabiri said. “I know more about this issue than the Americans do. In fact, I know more about bombs than anyone in the world.” [Hopefully he will encounter one soon, up close and personal.]

Aqeel al-Turaihi, the inspector general for the Ministry of the Interior, reported that the ministry bought 800 of the devices from a company called ATSC (UK) Ltd. for \$32 million in 2008, and an unspecified larger quantity for \$53 million.

Mr. Turaihi said Iraqi officials paid up to \$60,000 apiece, when the wands could be purchased for as little as \$18,500.

He said he had begun an investigation into the no-bid contracts with ATSC.

Jim McCormick, the head of ATSC, based in London, did not return calls for comment.

The Baghdad Operations Command announced Tuesday that it had purchased an additional 100 detection devices, but General Rowe said five to eight bomb-sniffing dogs could be purchased for \$60,000, with provable results.

Checking cars with dogs, however, is a slow process, whereas the wands take only a few seconds per vehicle. “Can you imagine dogs at all 400 checkpoints in Baghdad?” General Jabiri said. “The city would be a zoo.”

Speed is not the only issue.

Colonel Bidlack said, “When they say they are selling you something that will save your son or daughter on a patrol, they’ve crossed an insupportable line into moral depravity.”

Last year, the James Randi Educational Foundation, an organization seeking to debunk claims of the paranormal, publicly offered ATSC \$1 million if it could pass a scientific test proving that the device could detect explosives.

Mr. Randi said no one from the company had taken up the offer.

ATSC’s promotional material claims that its device can find guns, ammunition, drugs, truffles, human bodies and even contraband ivory at distances up to a kilometer, underground, through walls, underwater or even from airplanes three miles high. The device works on “electrostatic magnetic ion attraction,” ATSC says.

To detect materials, the operator puts an array of plastic-coated cardboard cards with bar codes into a holder connected to the wand by a cable.

“It would be laughable,” Colonel Bidlack said, “except someone down the street from you is counting on this to keep bombs off the streets.”

Proponents of the wand often argue that errors stem from the human operator, who they say must be rested, with a steady pulse and body temperature, before using the device.

Then the operator must walk in place a few moments to “charge” the device, since it has no battery or other power source, and walk with the wand at right angles to the body.

If there are explosives or drugs to the operator’s left, the wand is supposed to swivel to the operator’s left and point at them.

If, as often happens, no explosives or weapons are found, the police may blame a false positive on other things found in the car, like perfume, air fresheners or gold fillings in the driver’s teeth.

On Tuesday, a guard and a driver for The New York Times, both licensed to carry firearms, drove through nine police checkpoints that were using the device. None of the checkpoint guards detected the two AK-47 rifles and ammunition inside the vehicle.

During an interview on Tuesday, General Jabiri challenged a Times reporter to test the ADE 651, placing a grenade and a machine pistol in plain view in his office.

Despite two attempts, the wand did not detect the weapons when used by the reporter but did so each time it was used by a policeman.

“You need more training,” the general said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Texas Marine Killed In Afghanistan



Marine Reserve Sgt Cesar B. Ruiz, 26, of San Antonio, Texas died Oct. 31, 2009, in Afghanistan. He was born in Nava Coahuila, Mexico, and raised in San Antonio. He was assigned to the Marine Force Reserve in New Orleans. The San Antonio Express-News reports his mother, Maria Ruiz, was celebrating her birthday on Halloween when she learned that her son had been killed the same day in a roadside bombing. (AP Photo/Ruiz Family photo via San Antonio Express-News)

**Afghan Policeman Kills Five
British Soldiers, Wounds Six More,
And Gets Away:
“Local People Believed That The
Policeman Was Sympathetic To The
Taliban Insurgents”**

“This Is Not The First Incident And Will Not Be The Last One; It Will Continue In The Future As Well,’ Said Haji Muhammed Anwar Khan”



Nov. 4, 2009: A casualty is brought into the military hospital at Camp Bastion, in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, after five British soldiers were shot dead in an attack. (AP Photo/Peter Byrne-pa)

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

11.4.09 By ELENA BECATOROS and DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press Writers & By ALISSA J. RUBIN, JOHN F. BURNS and TAIMOOR SHAH, New York Times & Patrick Wintour and Richard Norton-Taylor, Guardian News and Media Limited & November 5, 2009 By Joshua Partlow, Washington Post Foreign Service. [Excerpts]

Five British soldiers, who had been advising Afghan policemen, were shot and killed Tuesday at a checkpoint where they were living in the volatile southern province of Helmand.

The shooting occurred in the Nad e-Ali district of Helmand province, one of the most violent areas of the country.

Another six soldiers were wounded, as were two Afghan policemen when the soldiers returned fire, officials said.

The deaths of five British soldiers at the hands of an Afghan policeman with whom they were working has unleashed an outcry in Britain and highlighted the vulnerability of

Western troops as they carry out a key part of the counterinsurgency strategy to train more members of the Afghan Army and police.

The attack occurred at midday on Tuesday in Helmand Province as the soldiers relaxed in the still-warm autumn sun on the roof of the joint checkpoint overlooking a shared British-Afghan compound.

According to military officials, they were killed while drinking tea in the village of Shin Kalay.

They were so at ease that they had shed their body armor and helmets, never thinking that they would be attacked by one of the men they lived and worked with, said a local provincial official.

They were fired upon by a policeman with a machine gun who was on the roof of a military checkpoint. Four were killed immediately and the fifth died of his wounds, the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force said.

The attacker then fled, setting off a manhunt.

When the attack occurred Tuesday, the British soldiers were visiting a jointly run Afghan and British checkpoint near a health clinic in Helmand, resting on the roof with some of the Afghan police officers.

Without warning, at least one of the Afghans began firing an automatic weapon in quick bursts, according to Hajji Barakzai, a local official.

The British retaliated, and two Afghan police officers were wounded, according to a press statement from NATO.

It was unclear if there was more than one attacking, the British said, but at least one, identified by locals as Gulbaddin, got away.

Speaking at a press conference in Helmand's provincial capital, Lashkar Gah, Major General Nick Carter, British commander of Nato troops in southern Afghanistan, said every effort was being made to track down the killer.

Asked how British troops would be able to trust the Afghan police in future, Carter said: "The first point I would make is that we have to trust the uniform of the Afghan police. The second point ... is that we will get better at this." **[Yes, the silly man said that. It's the clothes you have to trust, you see, never mind who is in the clothes. And this is a British general. Oliver Cromwell would puke.]**

For Britain, it was one of the highest number of fatalities in a single attack since the Afghanistan invasion eight years ago, bringing to 92 the number of British troops killed in a single year.

An Afghan official in Helmand said local people believed that the policeman was sympathetic to the Taliban insurgents.

“This is not the first incident and will not be the last one; it will continue in the future as well,” said Haji Muhammed Anwar Khan, a local elder and a representative of Helmand in Parliament.

“As much as we are losing the territories, we will face this kind of trouble, and also as much as there is distance between the government and I.S.A.F. and the local people, we will have face this kind of event,” he added, referring to the International Security Assistance Forces, the NATO-led force of about 71,000 troops from 43 nations.

The seeming disarray and rising number of casualties among allied soldiers has taken a toll on public support. In Britain, which has about 9,000 troops here — second only to the United States — recent opinion polls showed that less than half those surveyed supported the British role, and about half of those urged the early withdrawal.

But both the Labour Party government of Prime Minister Gordon Brown and the opposition Conservatives led by David Cameron, who are strong favorites to win a general election next spring, have stood firmly by the British commitment.

Comment: T

Right. Britain, like the United States, is a dictatorship managed by those with the money to buy it. So, Empire lovers all, they intend that the war will continue regardless of what the people paying for it and dying in it want. And so it will, until the soldiers and civilians who have had enough of paying and dying for Empire decide to take command of governing in their own way on their own terms, breaking up the existing government dictatorship by money.

U.S. Soldier Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan

05 Nov 2009 DPA

A US soldier was killed Wednesday afternoon when Taliban insurgents attacked his patrol in eastern Afghanistan, the US military said in a statement without giving details of the incident.

Soldier From 3 RIFLES Killed Near Sangin

5 Nov 09 Military Operations

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that a soldier from 3rd Battalion The Rifles (3 RIFLES) was killed in Afghanistan today, Thursday 5 November 2009.

The soldier was killed as a result of an explosion that happened near Sangin in central Helmand province this morning.

“The IEDs Are There, It’s Not Just All Them Talking”

“You’re Not Going To See Them Until You Get On Them, Unless You Know What To Look For”

November 3, 2009 by Tom Bowman, NPR [Excerpts]

Lt. Col. Christian Cabaniss is the commander of the Marine’s 2nd Battalion, 8th Regiment — known as “America’s Battalion.”

His Marines are responsible for this area, called the “snake’s head” — so named because on the map, the green cultivated areas create what appear to be a bulbous head, attached to a long thin body that stretches south along the lush Helmand River valley.

On a recent mission from Garmsir, the Marines pushed south into the snake’s neck — just six miles south — where they found roadside bombs, or IEDs.

When Marines first came here back in July, they were involved in running gun battles just outside the gate at this patrol base.

Now there’s another problem, says Sgt. Richard Lacey.

“The IEDs are there, it’s not just all them talking. You’re not going to see them until you get on them, unless you know what to look for. Since we’ve been here, we’ve kind of learned what to look for, where to stay away,” Lacey says.

As the Marines continue to move south, they are fighting to set up more patrol bases.

A tough area confronting the Marines is Marja, in Helmand, just west of the snake’s head. It is a sprawling district of markets and towns with about 200,000 residents.

It is also a center for drug traffickers and the Taliban. If more American troops are sent to Afghanistan, this is where they might end up.

Back in May, U.S. forces raided the area, seizing tons of opium and bomb-making equipment.

There are no American troops in Marja now, nor are there Afghan army or police.

But Marja isn't the only problem for the Americans in Helmand province.

At dusk, on a patrol, the Marines bring a State Department adviser named Carter Malkasian to meet a local Afghan leader.

The Afghan is named Mullah Aminullah — the Marine's call him "Joe Pesci." Like the characters the actor Pesci plays, the mullah is short and strident — and the Marines are wary of him.

A few hundred feet from where the meeting is taking place, the Marines find two roadside bombs and detonate them. One of them is on a road next to the mullah's mud house, but he tells the Marines he has no idea who planted the bombs.

And with that, he stood up and said it was time for prayers — and stumbled across the field toward his mosque.

Good News For The Troops! Pentagon Announces New Program To Stop IEDs: Buy Fertilizer In Afghanistan

Nov. 4 By Tony Capaccio, Bloomberg

October was the deadliest month of the Afghan campaign for the U.S., with 59 troops killed. Seven died Oct. 27 when their armored vehicle was hit by a 1,000-pound bomb made of fertilizer, Pentagon spokesman Geoff Morrell said today.

The U.S. is starting a program in southern Afghanistan to buy from farmers excess fertilizer that could be used to make bombs, Morrell said.

Great Moments In U.S. Military History: 9 Corn Famers Slaughtered In Babaji, Including Three Children: "Death To Karzai! Death To The Foreigners!"



Car carrying a dead Afghan child in Lashkar Gah, Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009. An overnight air strike killed civilians, including children. (AP Photo/Abdul Khaleq)

05 Nov 2009 DPA & By NOOR KHAN (AP)

Residents of Korkhashien village drove the bodies of nine civilians to the governor's office in the nearby provincial capital of Lashkar Gah, reporting they had been killed by a mortar round from U.S. forces.

Haji Gholam Rasoul, one of the villagers, said the deceased, including three children, were working in a field in the Babaji area of the provincial capital Wednesday night when the mortar round hit them.

Villager Abdul Rashin said the people were killed while harvesting corn in their fields.

The convoy of vans and station wagons from Korkhashien drove from the governor's office to a central market, where the villagers shouted blame at both President Hamid Karzai and his international allies.

"Death to Karzai! Death to the foreigners!" they yelled as passers-by looked through the car windows at the blanket-covered corpses.

In eastern Khost province, several hundred people demonstrated Thursday against an overnight raid that killed a resident of Baramkhil village. Walishah Hamat, head of the Mandozayi district government, said the dead man was innocent.

Kandahar: The Taliban Are "Pervasive"

“It’s Assumed That They’re Everywhere In The City”

November 4, 2009 Alex Strick van Linschoten, Journalist, interviewed on NPR by MICHELE NORRIS [Excerpts]

NORRIS: Have you been able to penetrate what we in the West, or here in America, would call the Taliban?

Mr. VAN LINSCHOTEN: I wouldn’t say that I’ve been able to penetrate the Taliban.

You know, one of the interesting things about Kandahar is that the Taliban are such a pervasive and every day and almost you don’t even need to note their presence.

It’s assumed that they’re everywhere in the city.

So, it’s always very interesting to my mind the way that people in the West see the conflict and the people in Kandahar see the conflict.

People in the West see, you know, two sides. You’ve got, let’s say the government and foreign forces on one side and the Taliban on the other side. Whereas in Kandahar, the lines are much more blurred, and the people in the government are very often talking to the people in the Taliban.

People in Kandahar are very pragmatic. And while we in the West may see the foreign forces and so on as having this big mission and it’s going to last a long time and so on, the people in Kandahar see the end on the horizon.

And, you know, in the end, once the foreign forces leave, they’re going to have to live with whoever comes in and this continuing to have a conversation with someone.

Even though the next day, they’re the guys shooting at you is just a part of that.

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/)

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



U.S. soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division patrol above the Pech Valley in Afghanistan's Kunar province Oct. 25, 2009. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)



U.S. soldiers from Stryker Brigade patrol in Arghandab District, Kandahar province November 1, 2009. REUTERS/ Omar Sobhani



U.S. soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division return fire after their patrol in the Pech Valley of Afghanistan's Kunar province was ambushed by Taliban fighters Nov. 3, 2009. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)

**Win A VIP Trip To See The Great Landmarks Of
Afghanistan And Meet The Friendly People In
Their Quaint Native Costumes:
They're Waiting For You And Eager To Say Hello!**



Taliban in an undisclosed location in Afghanistan October 30, 2009. REUTERS/Stringer

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

“A Spokesman For Hizbul Islam Said His Group Has Crushed The Somali Forces”

“Defeated Government Forces Have Regrouped In Elgal”

Nov 4, 2009 GAROWE ONLINE

At least seven people have been killed while eleven others sustained injuries on Wednesday in a fresh fighting between Somali government forces and Hizbul Islam rebel fighters in Beledweyn town, the capital of Hiiran Region, approximately 206 miles (332 km) north of the capital Mogadishu, witnesses and officials said.

The fighting started after rebel fighters carried out attacks on Somali forces based in a village outskirts of the town, prompting heavy gun battle that spread into the western wing of the central town.

Mohammed Osman Arus, a spokesman for Hizbul Islam said his group has crushed the Somali forces, killing several soldiers and recapturing the town.

“Early today, we carried out heavy attacks on the Somali government forces’ base in the outskirts of the town. We managed to oust them from there and inflict them heavy casualties,” he told reporters in Beledweyne, adding that his group have lost some fighters and others injured

He also claimed that his fighters have captured several soldiers who are currently held in the town, declining to outline what steps his group will take against the prisoners.

The defeated government forces have regrouped in Elgal, a village 13 kilometres north of Beledweyne. Some government soldiers in Mogadishu have confirmed that the strategic town has fallen into the hands of the rebel group.

Residents have also confirmed the presence of battlewagons belonging to Hizbul Islam and several fighters stationed in the town’s regional offices. The town, which strategically borders Ethiopia and connects the capital Mogadishu to central Somalia, has changed hands several times in recent weeks.

Resistance Forces Consolidate Hold On Beledweyn

5 November 2009 Shabelle Media Network

The Islamist officials of Hizbul Islam have imposed a curfew to Beledweyn town overnight, just after heavy fighting between the Islamist forces and transitional government troops which left more on Wednesday in out of the town. witnesses told Shabelle radio on Thursday.

Reports from the town say that main reason of the curfew was not discovered for the people in the town by the Islamist forces of Hizbul Islam who imposed the curfew to the town in central Somalia.

Locals said that more troops with several battle wagons of Hizbul Islam could be seen in the town as they started their curfew on Wednesday evening adding that they were patrolling through the streets of the town whole night.

We had tried to contact with the officials of Hizbul Islam to know more on their declaration and if there were any people arrested during their curfew in Beledweyn town.

But it was too difficult to get through the telephone and sources in the town indicated that the curfew was successfully completed last night.

The announcement of the Islamist officials of Hizbul Islam seems to be assuring the security of the town and it comes as heavy fighting between the transitional government soldiers and the Islamist forces happened in the east of Beledweyn town in Hiran region on Wednesday.

TROOP NEWS

Maniac Major Kills 12 Soldiers, Wounds 31 At Fort Hood

November 5, 2009 By MARIA NEWMAN, New York Times & CNN [Excerpts]

A Major in the United States Army killed 12 soldiers and wounded 31 others on Thursday afternoon at Fort Hood in Texas. Authorities then wounded the officer, who was identified as Nidal Malik Hasan, who was about to be deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan.

Major Hasan was a mental-health physician, according to Army records, who had been promoted in April. The Associated Press reported that his specialty was psychiatry.

The Austin-American Statesman quoted Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's spokesman, Jeff Sadoski, as saying *Major Hasan was upset about his deployment.*

[Well too fucking bad. That's supposed to be a reason to open fire on enlisted soldiers? Not commanding officers, mind you, not the politicians responsible for the war, but enlisted soldiers?

[Terrorism is an act of despair, practiced by those who have given up on everything else. Assassinating even generals and politicians accomplishes nothing at all. Others take their place.

[But this cowardly piece of shit, killing anybody who happened to be around and unable to defend themselves? Beneath contempt. A rabid rat in human form. T]

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

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



The casket of Marine Lance Cpl. David R. Baker at Arlington National Cemetery Nov. 3, 2009. Baker, 22, of Painesville, Ohio, was killed Oct. 20 during a foot patrol in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



Jace Rogers, 4, hugs his grandmother Diane Rogers, of the Illinois Army National Guard, during a deployment ceremony Springfield, Ill., Nov. 5, 2009. Rogers of Girard, Ill., will deploy to Afghanistan to join with the Polish Land Forces. (AP Photo/Seth Perlman)

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.

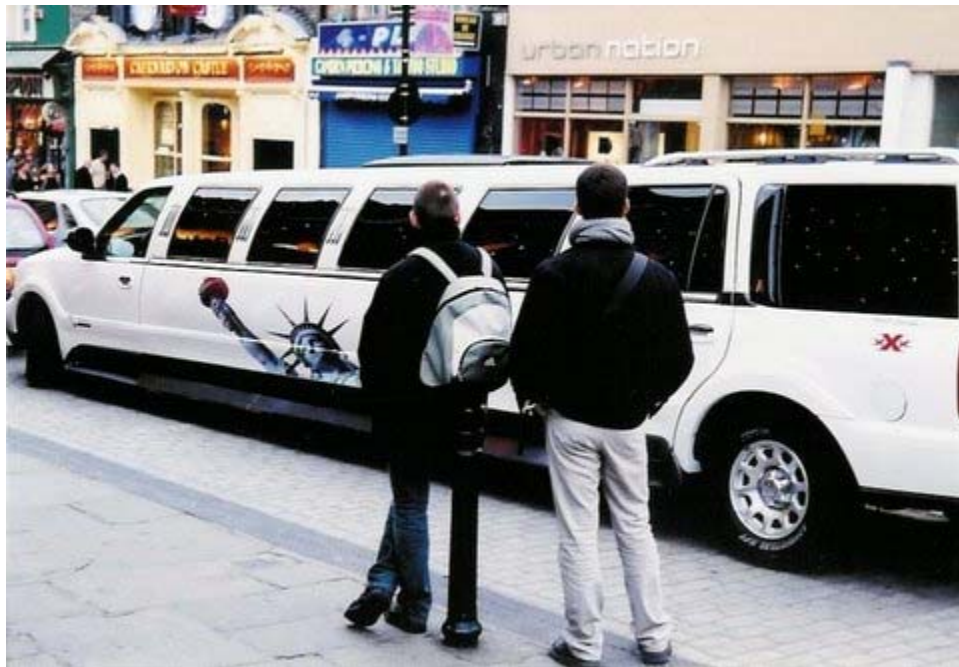
“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“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**

Last Rites



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: October 26, 2009
Subject: Re: Last Rites

Dedicated to Dennis Serdel, someone who understands the suicide bomber.
Mike

Last Rites

Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.

I did not serve in Vietnam for the cause of
freedom and democracy.
I served corporate greed in America for
the cause of profit.
Veterans tossed away like paper cups
after a movie.
Litter consumed by a war economy.
One more episode of Taps after a
veteran has blown his or her brains out.
Someone who wasn't in war,
says something about serving their country.
Several vets who attended the funeral get
drunk after the services.
They all laugh about serving their country.
Bobby takes a twenty dollar bill out of his
pocket and says the pledge of allegiance.
All the other vets at the long table chime in.
Willie says something about getting his pockets
picked by the U.S. fucking government.
Everyone laughs like hell,
the hell that most people would never understand.

Sean holds his beer up and says let's toast
our government....
In perfect unison,
they all yell....
Fuck The Government!!!!!!
The roar from the back of the bar is thunderous.
War is evil,
and the promoters who put them on are also evil.
They are the ones who ride around in stretch
limousines you can't see inside.
The corporate rich have white gloves on,
so they won't get their hands dirty.
The corporate rich and their sons and daughters
never go to war,
they just make and sell the weapons.
Just-- that is a word that needs attention.
But,
death will be horrifying for them someday,
as truth will finally rush in to lower the windows
of that stretch limousine,
so the faces of evil are exposed to all who's
lives were destroyed by their evil greed.
And then,
someone steps forward and throws something
inside that stretch limousine.
Then that someone stands there to watch the
decisive moment.
My God,
it's worth it to watch that limousine blown to hell,

while that someone moves on to the next world.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
October 25, 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)

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
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***The Origin Of The Golden Rule:* [Those Who Have The Gold Make The Rules]**

[Via Gerald Ali]

By Frederick Engels 1887. Source: Marx and Engels On Religion, Progress Publishers, 1957

The world outlook of the Middle Ages was substantially theological. The unity of the European world which actually did not exist internally, was established externally, against the common Saracen foe, by Christianity.

The unity of the West-European world, which consisted of a group of nations developing in continual intercourse, was welded in Catholicism.

This theological welding was not only in ideas, it existed in reality, not only in the Pope, its monarchistic centre, but above all in the feudally and hierarchically organized Church, which, owning about a third of the land in every country, occupied a position of tremendous power in the feudal organization.

The Church with its feudal landownership was the real link between the different countries; the feudal organization of the Church gave a religious consecration to the secular feudal state system.

Besides, the clergy was the only educated class. It was therefore natural that Church dogma was the starting-point and basis of all thought.

Jurisprudence, natural science, philosophy, everything was dealt with according to, whether its content agreed or disagreed with the doctrines of the Church.

But in the womb of feudalism the power of the bourgeoisie was developing.

A new class appeared in opposition to the big landowners.

The city burghers were first and foremost and exclusively producers of and traders in commodities, while the feudal mode of production was based substantially on self-consumption of the product within a limited circle, partly by the producers and partly by the feudal lord.

The Catholic world outlook, fashioned on the pattern of feudalism, was no longer adequate for this new class and its conditions of production and exchange.

Nevertheless, this new class remained for a long time a captive in the bonds of almighty theology.

From the thirteenth to the seventeenth century all the reformations and the struggles carried out under religious slogans that were connected with them were, on the theoretical side, nothing but repeated attempts of the burghers and plebeians in the towns and the peasants who had become rebellious by contact with both the latter to adapt the old theological world outlook to the changed economic conditions and the condition of life of the new class.

But that could not be done.

The flag of religion waved for the last time in England in the seventeenth century, and hardly fifty years later appeared undisguised in France the new world outlook which was to become the classical outlook of bourgeoisie, the juristic world outlook.

It was a secularization of the theological outlook.

Human right took the place of dogma, of divine right, the state took the place of the church.

The economic and social conditions, which had formerly been imagined to have been created by the Church and dogma because they were sanctioned by the Church, were now considered as founded on right and created by the state.

Because commodity exchange on a social scale and in its full development, particularly through advance and credit, produces complicated mutual contract relations and therefore demands generally applicable rules that can be given only by the community — state-determined standards of right — it was imagined that these standards of right arose not from the economic facts but from formal establishment by the state.

And because competition, the basic form of trade of free commodity producers, is the greatest equalizer, equality before the law became the main battle-cry of the bourgeoisie.

The fact that this newly aspiring class's struggle against the feudal lords and the absolute monarchy then protecting them, like every class struggle, had to be a political struggle, a struggle for the mastery of the state, and had to be fought on juridical demands contributed to strengthen the juristic outlook.

But the bourgeoisie produced its negative double, the proletariat, and with it a new class struggle which broke out before the bourgeoisie had completed the conquest of political power.

As the bourgeoisie in its time had by force of tradition dragged the theological outlook with it for a while in its fight against the nobility, so, too, the proletariat at first took over the juristic outlook from its opponent and sought in it weapons against the bourgeoisie.

The first elements of the proletarian party as well as their theoretical representatives remained wholly on the juristic "ground of right," the only distinction being that they built up for themselves a different ground of "right" from that of the bourgeoisie.

On one side the demand for equality was extended so that equality in right would be completed by social equality; on the other, from Adam Smith's proposition that labour is the source of all wealth but that the product of labour must be shared with the landowner and the capitalist the conclusion was drawn that this sharing was unjust and must be either abolished or modified in favour of the worker.

But the feeling that to leave this question on the mere juristic "ground of right" in no way made possible the abolition of the evil conditions created by the bourgeois-capitalistic mode of production, i.e., the mode of production based on large-scale industry, already then led the major minds among the earlier socialists — Saint-Simon, Fourier and Owen — to abandon entirely the juristic-political field and to declare all political struggle fruitless.

Both these views were equally unsatisfactory to express adequately and embrace completely the working class's desire for emancipation created by economic conditions.

The demand for the full product of labour and just as much the demand for equality lost themselves in unsolvable contradictions as soon as they were formulated juristically in detail and left the core of the question — the transformation of the mode of production — more or less untouched.

The rejection of the political struggle by the great Utopians was at the same time the rejection of the class struggle, i.e., of the only form of activity of the class whose interests they represented.

Both outlooks made abstraction of the historical background to which they owed their existence; both appealed to feeling: some to the feeling of justice, others to the feeling of humanity.

Both attired their demands in the form of pious wishes of which one could not say why they had to be fulfilled at that very time and not a thousand years earlier or later.

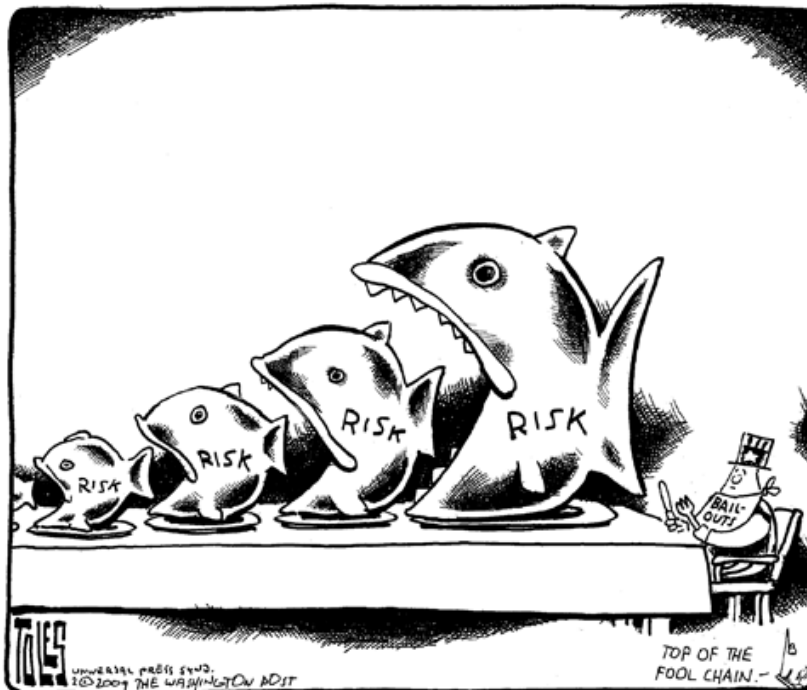
The working class, who by the changing of the feudal mode of production into the capitalist mode was deprived of all ownership of the means of production and by the mechanism of the capitalist mode of production is continually engendered anew in that hereditary state of propertylessness, cannot find an exhaustive expression of its living condition in the juristic illusion of the bourgeoisie.

It can only know that condition of life fully itself if it looks at things in their reality without juristically colored glasses.

But Marx helped it to do that with his materialist conception of history, by providing the proof that all man's juristic, political, philosophical, religious and other ideas are derived in the last resort from his economic conditions of life, from his mode of production and of exchanging the product.

Thus he provided the world outlook corresponding to the conditions of the life and struggle of the proletariat; only lack of illusions in the heads of the workers could correspond to their lack of property. And this proletarian world outlook is now spreading over the world.

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