

Military Resistance 8D11



The Silent Wars

From: Dennis Serdel
To: Military Resistance
Subject: The Silent Wars
Date: Apr 19, 2010

Written by Dennis Serdel, Military Resistance 2010; Vietnam 1967-68 (one tour) Light Infantry, Americal Div. 11th Brigade; United Auto Workers GM Retiree

The Silent Wars

What are they fighting for
Land and it's riches
what kind of riches
Oil Minerals Natural Gas
What else are they fighting for
Positioning in the world

So that's why the wars are
on the other side of earth Yes
Looks like a big country
picking on a smaller one again
You mean like Vietnam Yes
a long time ago
Their people just listen
but all they hear is silence
Yes they have their own problems
many live hand to mouth
they are in a rich depression
Many go to work while
others sit at home eating food stamps
Their government keeps
them poor so they will just
think of their own problems
and keep disconnected
to the silent wars beyond
Some have lost their houses
the rich banks took them away
Why does their rich government
keep them alive
while so many are broken
It's some sort of distraction
just their own silent wars
the wars on TV mean nothing
to them
Many have died
they die in their streets
they die in their cars
in the rich man's prisons
men surrounded by walls
so their screaming can't be heard
silence is torture
silence is death

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

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

UH-60 Down During Combat In Salaheddin; One U.S. Soldier Killed, Three Wounded

04/18/10 AP & 04/19/10 BBC

BAGHDAD—An American soldier has been killed and three others were wounded in a helicopter crash in northern Iraq, the U.S. military said Sunday.

The UH-60 Black Hawk went down late Saturday evening during a combat operation.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Maliki and US officials say two leaders of al-Qaeda in Iraq have been killed in the joint Iraqi-US operation.

Mr Maliki said both had been killed in Salaheddin province, west of Baghdad.

The US helicopter crashed during the attack, killing one US soldier, the statement said.

The Black Hawk is the military's mainstay transport helicopter in Iraq.

It is designed to carry up to four crew members and a fully equipped infantry squad of 11, but it was not clear how many people were aboard the aircraft that crashed.

Resistance Action

April 15 (Reuters) & April 16 (Reuters) & April 20 (Reuters)

A bomb attached to a vehicle exploded in Tuz Khurmato, 170 km (105 miles) north of Baghdad, wounding two police officers, the police said.

Militants in a speeding car fired on an Iraqi army checkpoint in western Baghdad, wounding one soldier. Soldiers returned fire, killing three alleged attackers, the spokesman for the Baghdad security operations centre said.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol wounded two police officers, in southern Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb went off near an Iraqi army patrol wounding three soldiers in Mahmudiya, 30 km (20 miles) south of Baghdad, police said.

Insurgents in a moving car shot and wounded a policeman at a checkpoint he was manning in central Kirkuk, 250 (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb hit a convoy carrying the police chief of a local district in southern Kirkuk, wounding his driver, police said.

Insurgents stormed a house of a leader of Sahwa, a U.S.-allied militia, in Tarmiya 25 km (15 miles) north of Baghdad, late on Monday killing his wife and four children, police said.

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

“Explosion” Kills Foreign “Servicemember” At Military “Facility” In Kabul; “Several” More Wounded

April 19 AP & ISAF

A foreign servicemember died today following an explosion at an Afghan National Army facility in Kabul Province, eastern Afghanistan.

Several servicemembers wounded in the same incident were transported to a military medical facility for treatment.

**“They’re Not Here To Protect Us,
They’re Here To Murder Us”
Occupation Troops Butcher Kids
Going Home From A Soccer Game:
Stupid Liars In Charge Of Occupation
Propaganda Caught In Another Stupid
Lie**

April 20, 2010 KHOST, Afghanistan (Reuters)

Foreign troops opened fire on a vehicle in southeast Afghanistan, killing four unarmed Afghans.

The father of two of the victims said three of those killed were teenagers and the fourth was a policeman. They were returning from a volleyball match, added Rahmatullah Mansoor, a judge in Khost's provincial court.

NATO initially said two were "known insurgents" but later acknowledged all may have been civilians.

The statement first described the four as including two "known insurgents" and two "associates."

A spokesman, Lieutenant-Colonel Todd Vician, later said the two had been described as insurgents because they were found in the military's vast bio-metric database.

The database includes tens of thousands of civilians as well as suspected insurgents, and Vician acknowledged that the two could have been civilians included for another reason.

None of the four were armed and no weapons were found, he said.

Relatives and friends of the victims gathered in Khost, the provincial capital to bury the dead. One body, filmed by Reuters television, was clearly that of a young teenage boy.

Rahmatullah Mansoor said his two sons and two nephews were returning from a volleyball match in Gorbaz district when NATO troops opened fire on their car.

His sons, Faizullah, 14, and Nasratullah, 17, and one of his nephews, Maiwand, 15, were schoolboys, Mansoor told Reuters.

His other nephew in the car, Amrullah, was a policeman in his 20s who worked in Khost's prison, he said.

Members of the Afghan security forces would normally be included in the NATO military bio-metric database.

"They (international troops) saw that there were four young boys in the car and opened fire on them. I think it was an intentional act," Mansoor said.

"Every person is a suspect or a Taliban member in the eyes of NATO troops. They're not here to protect us, they're here to murder us.

"We don't want any compensation from NATO or the Americans. I lost my sons, my nephews. I want the perpetrators who killed them to be tried in a martial court," Mansoor said.

“Two Bombs, Two Tankers”



An oil tanker burns in Takhta Beg, Pakistani Khyber tribal region along Afghan border, April 19, 2010. Taliban militants detonated two bombs that destroyed a pair of oil tankers along a vital supply route used by U.S. forces in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Qazi Rauf)

NO MISSION; POINTLESS WAR: ALL HOME NOW



A U.S. Marine patrols the area of Karez-e-Sayyidi in Helmand province April 4, 2010.
REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih



A U.S. soldier at the site of a blast in Jalalabad April 7, 2010. REUTERS/Parwiz

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

“The Islamist Rivals Attacked Mortar Shells To The International Airport”

4.18.10 Mareeg & GAROWE ONLINE

Yesterday’s deadly shelling and explosions rose and caused the deaths of more than 20 and 40 injuries in the Somalia capital Mogadishu, witnesses said on Sunday.

Heavy shelling had been exchanged in parts of the capital Mogadishu as the Islamist rivals attacked mortar shells to the international airport of Aden Adde and several other areas in the capital

Big explosion occurred in parts of Waberi district in the capital Mogadishu and caused more casualties of deaths and injuries including civilians and government soldiers. Two of the soldiers have been killed

“Yes, I could hear the sound of the blast. Many people died and several others including my husband were wounded. It was very dangerous. We got shot indeed as we heard and saw the casualties,” said a resident.

The fighting comes a day after the parliament committees charged on the top military leadership over frequent clashes within the government forces, terming it shameful.

The ill-equipped and poorly paid government is tasked to restore law and order in restive Somali capital Mogadishu which has been devastated by continuous clashes between warring armed factions, leading to death and destruction and massive exodus in recent days.

TROOP NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



April 12, 2010: Hearse carrying U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Tyler Griffin of Voluntown, Connecticut, killed in Afghanistan earlier in the month. (AP Photo/Charles Krupa)

**Military “More Pessimistic About
The Mission In Afghanistan”
“It Seems Like Our Efforts Are Not
Going Anywhere,” Said One Enlisted
Marine:
“It Seems Like We’re Going In A Big
Circle”**

April 18, 2010 By Brendan McGarry, Army Times [Excerpts]

The military's professional core today, a new Military Times survey shows, is a dedicated yet strained force that is more pessimistic about the mission in Afghanistan, more optimistic about Iraq and divided on President Obama's performance as commander in chief.

But amid an escalation of hostilities and casualties, the percentage of respondents who believe the U.S. is likely to succeed there has dropped significantly to 60 percent, from 68 percent last year and 77 percent the year before, survey results show.

In follow-on interviews, troops spoke of frustrating experiences in country and raised questions about the overall strategy.

"It seems like our efforts are not going anywhere," said one enlisted Marine who requested anonymity.

He said he helped build a school in Afghanistan in 2008 that was partially destroyed by insurgents.

"It seems like we're going in a big circle."

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

V.A. Processing "Menstrual Disorder" Claim For Male Veteran

04-03-2010 posted by Larry Scott, Founder and Editor, VA Watchdog dot Org

Larry,

I applied for service-connection for Fibromyalgia and Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

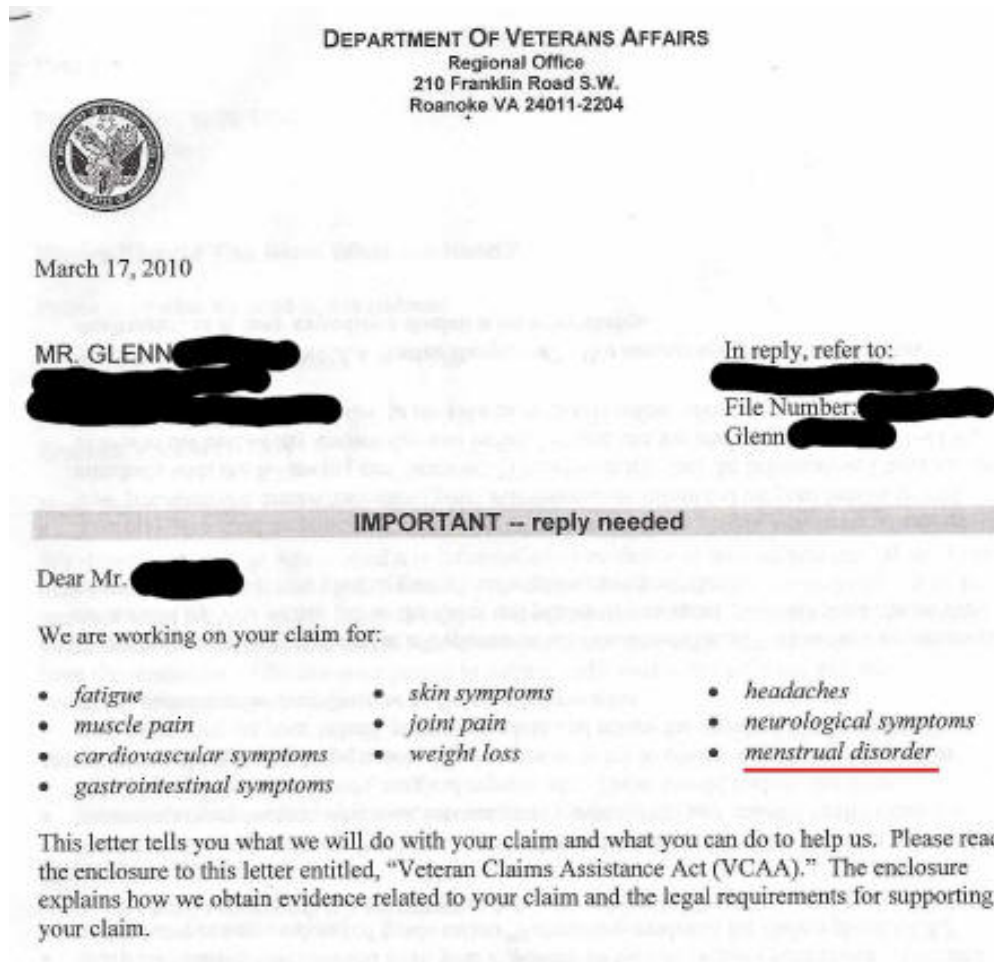
I am a Desert Storm veteran, circa 1991, and am already service-connected for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome @ 60%.

This is the VCAA I got in reply from the VARO. No, this is not an April Fools joke, and the VA OIG is monitoring the issue.

P.S. I am a 40 year old male, I did NOT request service-connection for a “menstrual disorder”...so reality is stranger than fiction?

Glenn

Don't believe it?
The VA letter is below



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

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



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

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

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

Hope for change doesn’t cut it when you’re still losing buddies.

-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War

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

-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace

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

-- Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787

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**

**Firearms are second only to the Constitution in importance; they are the peoples' liberty's teeth.
-- George Washington**

**The Social-Democrats ideal should not be the trade union secretary, but the tribune of the people who is able to react to every manifestation of tyranny and oppression no matter where it appears no matter what stratum or class of the people it affects; who is able to generalize all these manifestations and produce a single picture of police violence and capitalist exploitation; who is able to take advantage of every event, however small, in order to set forth before all his socialist convictions and his democratic demands, in order to clarify for all and everyone the world-historic significance of the struggle for the emancipation of the proletariat."
-- V. I. Lenin; What Is To Be Done**

**A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners.
-- Leon Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution**

**"The Nixon administration claimed and received great credit for withdrawing the Army from Vietnam, but it was the rebellion of low-ranking GIs that forced the government to abandon a hopeless suicidal policy"
-- David Cortright; Soldiers In Revolt**

**It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.
-- Larry Christensen, Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers**

Afghanistan: The Stupid War:

“We Are Losing Lives For No Purpose”
“It Is The Longest War In American History”
“It Is A War For Which There Is No End In Sight”
“It Is A War That Is Utterly Devoid Of Strategic Purpose”

April 12, 2010 Bill Moyers Journal; PBS [Excerpts]

Interview with Andrew Bacevich:

Andrew Bacevich served 23 years, some of them in Vietnam, before retiring from the Army.

He's now professor of history and international relations at Boston University. Just this week he was at a US Army War College symposium on the highly pertinent question, "How do we know when a war is over?"

BILL MOYERS: What does it say to you as a soldier that our political leaders, time and again, send men and women to fight for, on behalf of corrupt guys like Karzai?

ANDREW BACEVICH: Well, we don't learn from history.

And there is this persistent, and I think almost inexplicable belief that the use of military force in some godforsaken country on the far side of the planet will not only yield some kind of purposeful result, but by extension, will produce significant benefits for the United States.

I mean, one of the obvious things about the Afghanistan war that is so striking and yet so frequently overlooked is that we're now in the ninth year of this war.

It is the longest war in American history.

And it is a war for which there is no end in sight.

And to my mind, it is a war that is utterly devoid of strategic purpose.

I mean, if we could wave a magic wand tomorrow and achieve in Afghanistan all the purposes that General McChrystal would like us to achieve, would the Jihadist threat be substantially reduced as a consequence?

And does anybody think that somehow, Jihadism is centered or headquartered in Afghanistan? When you think about it for three seconds, you say, "Well, of course, it's not. It is a transnational movement."

They can come from Brooklyn.

So the notion that somehow, because the 9/11 attacks were concocted in this place, as indeed they were, the notion that therefore, the transformation of Afghanistan will provide some guarantee that there won't be another 9/11 is patently absurd. Quite frankly, the notion that we can prevent another 9/11 by invading and occupying and transforming countries is absurd.

BILL MOYERS: You participated this week in a symposium at the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on the subject, "How will we know when a war ends?" So, the boots are on the ground there. The troops are there, committed, at least through 2011. What do we do?

ANDREW BACEVICH: Well, I have to say, and I mean, I'm sure this sounds too simplistic. It would be way too simplistic for people in Washington.

But if you want to get out of a war, you get out of a war. I mean, you call General McChrystal and say, "Your mission has changed. And your mission is to organize an orderly extrication of US forces."

BILL MOYERS: There's something else that President Obama said when he was in Afghanistan. Take a look at this:

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: "The United States of America does not quit once it starts on something. You don't quit, the American Armed Services does not quit, we keep at it, we persevere, and together with our partners we will prevail. I am absolutely confident of that."

BILL MOYERS: How do you read that?

ANDREW BACEVICH: Well, I think the president has, he's placed down this enormous bet. A bet involves 100 thousand American soldiers.

And the deterioration of circumstances, for example, if Karzai turns out to be an unreliable ally, even that will make it extraordinarily difficult for the president to now say, "Well, I've changed my mind. I'm going to take that, I'm going to take that bet off the table."

So in that sense, the rhetoric is not at all surprising, I think.

And of course, it's historically incorrect.

We quit after the Mogadishu firefight in Somalia. I think that it probably was prudent to quit. That doesn't make Somalia a great place today.

We quit in Vietnam, having paid an enormous cost, to try to maintain the viability of South Vietnam.

So there are times actually when it makes sense to quit.

BILL MOYERS: Should we quit in Afghanistan?

ANDREW BACEVICH: I think so.

I mean again, I believe that ultimately, a sound foreign policy should be informed by an enlightened understanding of one's own interests. That's what we pay people like President Obama big money to do, to advance our collective interests, what's good for this country, this people. And the perpetuation of the war in Afghanistan is not good for this country and for our people.

BILL MOYERS: Why?

ANDREW BACEVICH: Because we are squandering our treasure.

We are losing lives for no purpose.

And ultimately, the perpetuation of this unnecessary war does, I think, serve to exacerbate the problems within the Islamic world, rather than reducing those problems.

**“Black Heart: One Platoon’s
Descent into Madness In Iraq’s
Triangle of Death”
An Account Of Rape And Murder
In Mahmudiyah:
“To Assert That The Battalion
Command Climate Was Anything
Other Than Utterly Dysfunctional Is
Simply A Whitewash”**

[Book Review]

April 18, 2010 By J. Ford Huffman, Army Times

Book Review: *Black Heart: One Platoon's Descent into Madness In Iraq's Triangle of Death*; Jim Frederick, Harmony Books; 439 pages; \$26

The 1st Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, is called the Black Heart Brigade. This is the battalion whose Bravo Company, 1st Platoon, included the infamous Pfc.

Steven Green, who is now serving five consecutive life sentences for the rape and murder of a 14-year-old Iraqi girl in 2006.

In effect, "Black Hearts" shows how a broken system broke its men.

Mirroring an unfortunate theme in many Iraq war books, it's a tale about too few men given too much to do and too little to do it with.

"Black Hearts" is engrossing and enraging, a chronology of combat and crime reported with compassion.

In his very forward foreword, Frederick writes that "the story of 1st Platoon's 2005-2006 deployment to the Triangle of Death is both epic and tragic."

"During their yearlong deployment, soldiers from the battalion either found or got hit by nearly 900 roadside (improvised explosive devices). They were shelled or mortared almost every day and took fire from rifles, machine guns or rocket-propelled grenades nearly every other day.

"Twenty-one men from the battalion were killed and scores more were wounded badly enough to be evacuated home."

Green is one who stayed. When he enlisted, the Army granted a waiver for his brushes with the law.

At Fort Campbell, Ky., he got a reputation for being "a racist, white supremacist and a misanthrope."

In Iraq, he threw a puppy off a roof. Why?

"You said to get rid of it," he giggled to his platoon sergeant. He pulls loose teeth from a dead Iraqi gunman's mouth and puts them in his pocket.

By the time he and three other soldiers (also in prison now) kill the Iraqi girl — after Green kills her family — the reader is aghast at an environment that enables such behavior.

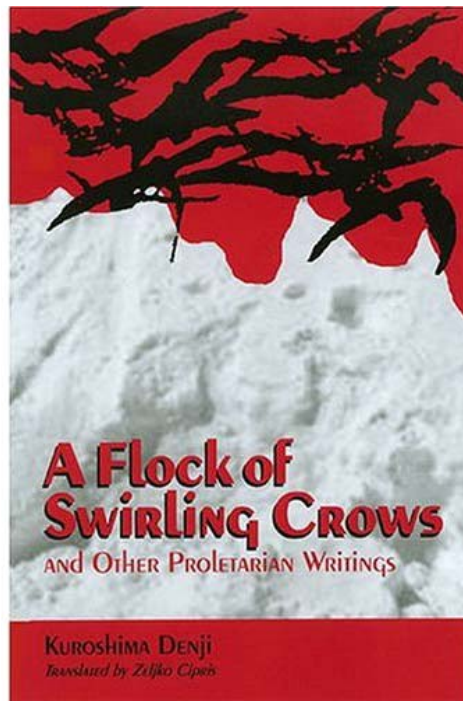
But “Black Hearts” is not just about Green.

Only two weeks before the murders, one soldier was killed at a traffic-control point, and two others were abducted, “mutilated, beheaded, burned and booby-trapped with explosives.” There are good men, including Pfc. Justin Watt, who speaks about the rape and murders.

When a sergeant first class sees the platoon three months into its outside-the-wire life, he is shocked. “They were dirty, haggard, exhausted, pale and dead-eyed,” Frederick writes.

“To assert that the battalion command climate was anything other than utterly dysfunctional, or to declare that the soldiers of 1st Platoon were, at any point of the deployment, being effectively managed and led, is simply a whitewash.”

Ishikawa and Kuroshima would understand: insert troops into a hell on earth and there’s no way to prevent atrocities. Yet the real fiends in their capital suites are never spattered with a single drop of blood. Solidarity, Z



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

Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War:



Sir! No Sir!:

The Sir! No Sir! DVD is on sale now, exclusively at
http://www.sirnosir.com/home_dvd_storefront.html

Also available is a Soundtrack CD (which includes the entire song from the FTA Show, "Soldier We Love You"), theatrical posters, tee shirts, and the DVD of "A Night of Ferocious Joy," a film about the first hip-hop antiwar concert against the "War on Terror."

**BUY SIR! NO SIR! FOR ACTIVE DUTY
SOLDIERS NOW
HELP GET SIR! NO SIR!**

**INTO THE HANDS THAT NEED IT
MOST**

The Ludlow Massacre

April 20, 1914:

Infamous Anniversary:

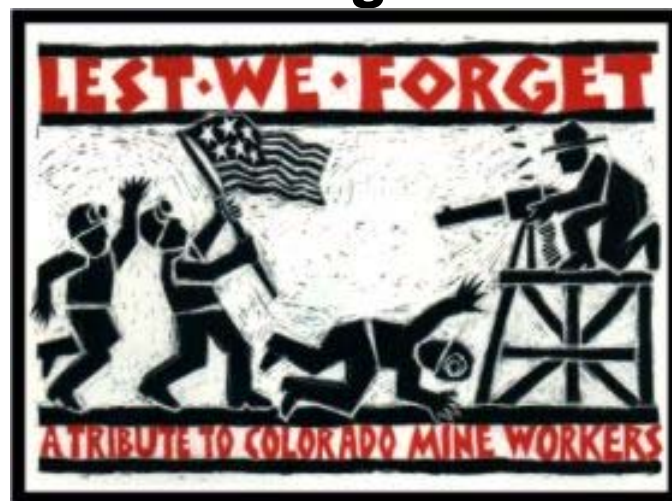
**Soldiers Dishonor Their Uniforms
Slaughtering Women And Children**

To Serve The Rich:

Some Honorable Soldiers Resist, But

**The Colorado National Guard
Becomes Notorious All Over The**

**World As Foul, Cowardly Strike-
Breaking Scum**



Eighty-two soldiers in a company on a troop train headed for Trinidad refused to go. The men declared they would not engage in the shooting of women and children.

Carl Bunin Peace History April 16-22 & PBS.org

A lot more than 2,000 miles separated the Rockefeller estate from Southern Colorado when on Monday April 20, 1914, the first shot was fired at Ludlow.

One of history's most dramatic confrontations between capital and labor — the Ludlow massacre — took place at the mines of the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company (CF&I).

Troops from the Colorado state militia attacked strikers, killing 25 (half women and children), in Ludlow. Two women and eleven children who suffocated in a pit they had dug under their tent.

Having struck the Rockefeller-owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company the previous September for improved conditions, better wages, and union recognition, the workers established a tent camp which was fired upon and ultimately torched during the 14-hour siege.

The Ludlow Massacre

[The following was excerpted from Howard Zinn's A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES (pgs 346-349).]

"... shortly after Woodrow Wilson took office there began in Colorado one of the most bitter and violent struggles between workers and corporate capital in the history of the country.

This was the Colorado coal strike that began in September 1913 and culminated in the 'Ludlow Massacre' of April 1914.

Eleven thousand miners in southern Colorado ... worked for the Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation, which was owned by the Rockefeller family.

Aroused by the murder of one of their organizers, they went on strike against low pay, dangerous conditions, and feudal domination of their lives in towns completely controlled by the mining companies."

"When the strike began, the miners were immediately evicted from their shacks in the mining towns. Aided by the United Mine Workers Union, they set up tents in the nearby hills and carried on the strike, the picketing, from these tent colonies.

The gunmen hired by the Rockefeller interests -- the Baldwin- Felts Detective Agency -- using Gatling guns and rifles, raided the tent colonies.

The death list of miners grew, but they hung on, drove back an armored train in a gun battle, fought to keep out strikebreakers.

With the miners resisting, refusing to give in, the mines not able to operate, the Colorado governor (referred to by a Rockefeller mine manager as 'our little cowboy governor') called out the National Guard, with the Rockefellers supplying the Guard's wages.

"The miners at first thought the Guard was sent to protect them, and greeted its arrival with flags and cheers.

They soon found out the Guard was there to destroy the strike.

The Guard brought strikebreakers in under cover of night, not telling them there was a strike.

Guardsmen beat miners, arrested them by the hundreds, rode down with their horses parades of women in the streets of Trinidad, the central town in the area.

And still the miners refused to give in.

When they lasted through the cold winter of 1913-1914, it became clear that extraordinary measures would be needed to break the strike.

"In April 1914, two National Guard companies were stationed in the hills overlooking the largest tent colony of strikers, the one at Ludlow, housing a thousand men, women, children.

On the morning of April 20, a machine gun attack began on the tents.

The miners fired back.

Their leader was lured up into the hills to discuss a truce, then shot to death by a company of National Guardsmen.

The women and children dug pits beneath the tents to escape the gunfire.

At dusk, the Guard moved down from the hills with torches, set fire to the tents, and the families fled into the hills; thirteen people were killed by gunfire.

"The following day, a telephone linesman going through the ruins of the Ludlow tent colony lifted an iron cot covering a pit in one of the tents and found the charred, twisted bodies of eleven children and two women.

This became known as the Ludlow Massacre.

"The news spread quickly over the country.

In Denver, the United Mine Workers issued a 'Call to Arms' -- 'Gather together for defensive purposes all arms and ammunition legally available.' Three hundred

armed strikers marched from other tent colonies into the Ludlow area, cut telephone and telegraph wires, and prepared for battle.



The aftermath of the Ludlow Massacre, 1914.

Railroad workers refused to take soldiers from Trinidad to Ludlow.

At Colorado Springs, three hundred union miners walked off their jobs and headed for the Trinidad district, carrying revolvers, rifles, shotguns.

“In Trinidad itself, miners attended a funeral service for the twenty-six dead at Ludlow, then walked from the funeral to a nearby building, where arms were stacked for them.

They picked up rifles and moved into the hills, destroying mines, killing mine guards, exploding mine shafts.

The press reported that ‘the hills in every direction seem suddenly to be alive with men.’

“In Denver, eighty-two soldiers in a company on a troop train headed for Trinidad refused to go. The press reported: ‘The men declared they would not engage in the shooting of women and children.

They hissed the 350 men who did start and shouted imprecations at them.

“Five thousand people demonstrated in the rain on the lawn in front of the state capital at Denver asking that the National Guard officers at Ludlow be tried for murder, denouncing the governor as an accessory.

The Denver Cigar Makers Union voted to send five hundred armed men to Ludlow and Trinidad.

Women in the United Garment Workers Union in Denver announced four hundred of their members had volunteered as nurses to help the strikers.

“All over the country there were meetings, demonstrations.

Pickets marched in front of the Rockefeller office at 26 Broadway, New York City.

A minister protested in front of the church where Rockefeller sometimes gave sermons, and was clubbed by the police.

“The New York Times carried an editorial on the events in Colorado, which were not attracting international attention.

The Times emphasis was not on the atrocity that had occurred, but on the mistake in tactics that had been made.

Its editorial on the Ludlow Massacre began: ‘Somebody blundered ... ‘

Two days later, with the miners armed and in the hills of the mine district, the Times wrote: ‘With the deadliest weapons of civilization in the hands of savage-mined men, there can be no telling to what lengths the war in Colorado will go unless it is quelled by force ... The President should turn his attention from Mexico long enough to take stern measures in Colorado.’

“The governor of Colorado asked for federal troops to restore order, and Woodrow Wilson complied.

This accomplished, the strike petered out.

Congressional committees came in and took thousands of pages of testimony.

The union had not won recognition.

Sixty-six men, women, and children had been killed.

Not one militiaman or mine guard had been indicted for crime.

“The Times had referred to Mexico.

On the morning that the bodies were discovered in the tent pit at Ludlow, American warships were attacking Vera Cruz, a city on the coast of Mexico--bombarding it, occupying it, leaving a hundred Mexicans dead--because Mexico had arrested American sailors and refused to apologize to the United States with a twenty-one gun salute.

Could patriotic fervor and the military spirit cover up class struggle?

Unemployment, hard times, were growing in 1914.

Could guns divert attention and create some national consensus against an external enemy?

It surely was a coincidence--the bombardment of Vera Cruz, the attack on the Ludlow colony.

Or perhaps it was, as someone once described human history, ‘the natural selection of accidents.’

Perhaps the affair in Mexico was an instinctual response of the system for its own survival, to create a unity of fighting purpose among a people torn by internal conflict.

“The bombardment of Vera Cruz was a small incident.

But in four months the First World War would begin in Europe.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Why There Are No Israelis In Israel: The Official Government Position: “There Is No Israeli Nation”

04/06/2010 By Jonathan Cook – Nazareth; Palestine Chronicle [Excerpts]

A group of Jews and Arabs are fighting in the Israeli courts to be recognised as ‘Israelis’, a nationality currently denied them, in a case that officials fear may threaten the country’s self-declared status as a Jewish state.

Israel refused to recognise an Israeli nationality at the country’s establishment in 1948, making an unusual distinction between “citizenship” and “nationality”.

Although all Israelis qualify as “citizens of Israel”, the state is defined as belonging to the “Jewish nation”, meaning not only the 5.6 million Israeli Jews but also more than seven million Jews in the diaspora.

Critics say the special status of Jewish nationality has been a way to undermine the citizenship rights of non-Jews in Israel, especially the fifth of the population who are Arab. Some 30 laws in Israel specifically privilege Jews, including in the areas of immigration rights, naturalization, access to land and employment.

Arab leaders have also long complained that indications of “Arab” nationality on ID cards make it easy for police and government officials to target Arab citizens for harsher treatment.

The interior ministry has adopted more than 130 possible nationalities for Israeli citizens, most of them defined in religious or ethnic terms, with “Jewish” and “Arab” being the main categories.

The group’s legal case is being heard by the supreme court after a district judge rejected their petition two years ago, backing the state’s position that there is no Israeli nation.

The head of the campaign for Israeli nationality, Uzi Ornan, a retired linguistics professor, said: "It is absurd that Israel, which recognizes dozens of different nationalities, refuses to recognise the one nationality it is supposed to represent."

The government opposes the case, claiming that the campaign's real goal is to "undermine the state's infrastructure" -- a presumed reference to laws and official institutions that ensure Jewish citizens enjoy a privileged status in Israel.

Mr Ornan, 86, said that denying a common Israeli nationality was the linchpin of state-sanctioned discrimination against the Arab population.

"There are even two laws -- the Law of Return for Jews and the Citizenship Law for Arabs -- that determine how you belong to the state," he said. "What kind of democracy divides its citizens into two kinds?"

Yoel Harshefi, a lawyer supporting Mr Ornan, said the interior ministry had resorted to creating national groups with no legal recognition outside Israel, such as "Arab" or "unknown", to avoid recognising an Israeli nationality.

In official documents most Israelis are classified as "Jewish" or "Arab", but immigrants whose status as Jews is questioned by the Israeli rabbinate, including more than 300,000 arrivals from the former Soviet Union, are typically registered according to their country of origin.

"Imagine the uproar in Jewish communities in the United States, Britain or France, if the authorities there tried to classify their citizens as 'Jewish' or 'Christian'" said Mr Ornan.

Mr Ornan has been joined in his action by 20 other public figures, including former government minister Shulamit Aloni. Several members have been registered with unusual nationalities such as "Russian", "Buddhist", "Georgian" and "Burmese".

Two Arabs are party to the case, including Adel Kadaan, who courted controversy in the 1990s by waging a lengthy legal action to be allowed to live in one of several hundred communities in Israel open only to Jews.

Uri Avnery, a peace activist and former member of the parliament, said the current nationality system gave Jews living abroad a far greater stake in Israel than its 1.3 million Arab citizens.

"The State of Israel cannot recognise an 'Israeli' nation because it is the state of the 'Jewish' nation ... it belongs to the Jews of Brooklyn, Budapest and Buenos Aires, even though these consider themselves as belonging to the American, Hungarian or Argentine nations."

The distinction between Jewish and Arab nationalities is also shown on interior ministry records used to make important decisions about personal status issues such as marriage, divorce and death, which are dealt with on entirely sectarian terms.

Only Israelis from the same religious group, for example, are allowed to marry inside Israel -- otherwise they are forced to wed abroad -- and cemeteries are separated according to religious belonging.

Some of those who have joined the campaign complain that it has damaged their business interests. One Druze member, Carmel Wahaba, said he had lost the chance to establish an import-export company in France because officials there refused to accept documents stating his nationality as "Druze" rather than "Israeli".

The group also said it hoped to expose a verbal sleight of hand that intentionally mistranslates the Hebrew term "Israeli citizenship" on the country's passports as "Israeli nationality" in English to avoid problems with foreign border officials.

B Michael, a commentator for Yedioth Aharonoth, Israel's most popular newspaper, has observed: "We are all Israeli nationals -- but only abroad."

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS



Government Settles Case Against Goldman Sachs: Goldman CEO To Perform Community Service As Treasury Secretary

April 20, 2010

NEW YORK (The Borowitz Report)

In a settlement of the government's securities fraud case against, the bank's CEO, Lloyd Blankfein, has agreed to perform two years of community service as Treasury Secretary of the United States.

At a press conference in New York, Mr. Blankfein said that as Treasury Secretary he would "continue to do God's work as I did at Goldman, but at a significant pay cut."

A Treasury Dept. spokesperson said that by performing community service as Treasury Secretary, Mr. Blankfein will be able to do less harm to the economy because he will have significantly less power than he had as Chairman of Goldman.

His experience at Goldman, however, will be “invaluable” in his new role as Treasury Secretary, the spokesperson said: “Lloyd Blankfein’s years of marketing worthless securities have prepared him for the important task of selling Treasuries to the Chinese.”

Mr. Blankfein is the latest in a long line of Goldman chairmen to serve as Treasury Secretary, although he is believed to be the first to do so while wearing an electronic ankle bracelet.

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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.

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