

Military Resistance 8D4



The Advertisement

From: Dennis Serdel
To: Military Resistance
Sent: April 04, 2010
Subject: The Advertisement

Written by Dennis Serdel, Military Resistance 2010

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

The Advertisement

**Did you hear what he wants to do
You mean our John
Yeah he wants to join the Army**

What do you think about that
I don't know, all I know
is that I worked 20 years
raising that boy
And then there is all the love
we gave him so that he
is a fine human being
Seems to be a long time wasted
by us if he should get killed
Or if he comes back
with an arm missing
or a leg
Times are tough right now
with the economy
Maybe he would have to work
a minimum wage job
and live with us until
the economy gets better
We did not raise him
so they can get him killed
I think we should talk
him out of joining the Army
with two wars going
on at the same time
He plays that video game
they gave him
that is what war is supposed
to be like
That and our country has
turned into a war culture
an Army of one my ass
If that recruiter downtown
doesn't leave him alone
I'll go down there
and cold cock him
Later John didn't join
after his parents
talked sense to him

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

April 3 (Reuters) & April 4 (Reuters) & April 5 (Reuters)

A roadside bomb wounded a policeman when it hit a police patrol in central Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

A car bomb targeting a police patrol in a busy market wounded seven policemen, in southern Mosul, police said.

A roadside bomb went off near a police patrol, wounding one police officer on the southern outskirts of Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

A sticky bomb attached to a car wounded a policeman at a police checkpoint in the Doura district of southern Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol wounded five officers in the Utaifiya district of west-central Baghdad, police said.

A roadside bomb killed a policeman and wounded three others in the Shat al-Arab district of eastern Basra, 420 km (290 miles) southeast of Baghdad, police said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Voluntown Marine, 19, Killed In Afghanistan

April 4, 2010 Mark Spencer, Hartford Courant

Tyler Owen Griffin, a 19-year-old Marine lance corporal from Voluntown, was recently killed in Afghanistan.

Voluntown First Selectman Ronald Millovitsch said he spoke to Griffin's stepfather, who confirmed that his stepson had been killed. The stepfather told Millovitsch the only thing keeping Griffin's mother going is that her son was pursuing his dream.

"The son had always wanted to be a Marine, and he got to be a Marine," Millovitsch said.

After the death was confirmed, Millovitsch said, he lowered the four public flags in the town of 2,600 to half-staff. "This town will go out of its way to help any way we can," he said.

Two Facebook pages have been created to memorialize Griffin.

Gov. M. Jodi Rell ordered U.S. and state flags flown at half-staff until Griffin's burial.

Griffin was killed by an improvised explosive device, according to a report in the Norwich Bulletin.

Lindsey Grenier, 20, went to school with Griffin from kindergarten at Voluntown Elementary School to Griswold High School, where Griffin played football.

“Tyler was an all around good person,” Grenier said. “He worked hard at everything he did and all he wanted to do was serve his country. He talked endlessly about it.”

Millovitsch said the family had gone to Dover Air Force base in Delaware, but was expected back in the state by today. Details about the funeral were not available, but Millovitsch said he was told it would be held in town.

Nine soldiers from Connecticut or with state ties have died in Afghanistan since 2001.

The others are:

- Air Force Technical Sgt. John Chapman, 36, a native of Windsor Locks, died March 4, 2002. Chapman was assigned to the 24th Special Tactics Squadron.
- Army Sgt. Maj. Phillip R. Albert, 41, of the Terryville section of Plymouth, died Nov. 23, 2003. Albert was in the 2nd Battalion of the 87th Infantry Regiment.
- Army Sgt. Benjamin L. Gilman, 28, of Meriden, died Jan. 29, 2004. Gilman was assigned to the 41st Engineer Battalion, 10th Mountain Division.
- Army Lt. Col. Michael J. McMahon, 41, who grew up in West Hartford, died Nov. 27, 2004. McMahon was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.
- Army Maj. Stephen Reich, 34, of Washington, died June 28, 2005. Reich was a company commander of the 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.
- Staff Sgt. Joseph E. Phaneuf II, 38, of Eastford, died Dec. 15, 2006. Phaneuf was in the Army National Guard and was assigned to the 1st Battalion of the 102nd Infantry Regiment, which will send 600 troops to Afghanistan in early 2010.
- Army Capt. Benjamin A. Sklaver, 32, of Hamden, died Oct. 2, 2009. Sklaver was assigned to the 422nd Civil Affairs Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division.
- Cpl. Xhacob LaTorre, 20, of Waterbury, died Dec. 8, 2009. LaTorre was a member of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Soldier From 3 Rifles Killed In Kajaki

4 Apr 10 Ministry of Defence

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must announce that a soldier from 3rd Battalion, The Rifles was killed in Afghanistan today, Sunday 4 April 2010.

The soldier was killed as a result of an explosion that happened near Forward Operating Base Zeebrugge, in the Kajaki area of Helmand Province, this morning.

**The Search For A U.S. Soldier
Missing In Action:
“It Is Unclear Whether The Soldier
Had Been Killed Or Disappeared”
“We’ve Been Here For Eight Hours;
Therefore, It’s Likely That The Taliban
Have Been Implanting IEDs Around
Us”
“We Don’t Do Any Route Twice. It’s
Better To Have Wet Legs Than No Legs”**

“What the Taliban usually do is shoot at you or blow something up, then throw the weapon under a hay bale and go back to being farmers,” says Sgt. Joshua Victorin, a soldier on his fifth deployment.

April 5, 2010 Jason Athanasiadis, Washington Times [Excerpts]

ARGHANDAB VALLEY, Afghanistan

It is the U.S. Army’s most urgent alert and it is now ringing across the Arghandab Valley, from the 82nd Airborne’s Battalion Command to the smallest combat outpost: Soldier missing in action.

The alert sounds after a patrol was ambushed by Taliban soldiers operating in this lush and strategically crucial valley on the outskirts of Kandahar, Afghanistan’s second largest city and the crucible of Taliban influence.

In the heat of the moment, it is unclear whether the soldier had been killed or disappeared.

A few miles from the incident, Lt. Jordan Ritenour is having a hard time persuading his Afghan army colleagues to join him on the search mission. As part of Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal's new counterinsurgency doctrine, Lt. Ritenour and his fellow soldiers live with the same Afghan soldiers they mentor in bases close to Taliban-supporting villages.

"We wanted you to come because an American died today," he tells them, his voice choking with frustration and emotion.

Five Afghan soldiers are corralled and the company heads out, moving across the lanes of the mud-walled village of Kuhak before plunging into fields.

The Taliban has prepared for its annual spring offensive by sowing bombs and booby traps around the valley's country lanes.

Invisible explosives stud walls, ditches and even trees. The soldiers go off-road, betting that the Taliban would not alienate local farmers by booby-trapping their fields. They scramble over orchard walls and wade through irrigation canals.

"We don't do any route twice," says Army Sgt. Jeremiah Mason. "If they catch me on an IED, they'll have really done their homework."

"It's better to have wet legs than no legs," Sgt. John Cook says.

The soldiers reach the shore of the Arghandab River and assume covering positions along one of its banks, across from a complex of mud-walled compounds. A half-dozen helicopters buzz overhead, their pilots straining to locate the missing man.

The radio transmits the news that pieces of an M-4 rifle and a helmet have been found.

It is becoming clear that the infantryman probably did not survive the improvised explosive device (IED) ambush.

Amid trails of smoke, a Black Hawk helicopter lands to retrieve parts of the wreckage.

Then, a shout goes out. Amid the deployed soldiers and maneuvering helicopters, a man has emerged from the shrub on the far shore and is moving toward the river. Swathed in a white robe and turban, he looks like a figure from the Bible.

"Hey, do you want to search this clown?" one of the soldiers asks.

Two Afghan and two American soldiers wade through the river's fast currents, interdict the aging man and search him. Once it is ascertained he is unarmed, he is allowed to go. In the absence of a bridge, he hitches up his robes and plunges into the water, a timeless figure in a virgin valley visited by 21st-century war.

"What the Taliban usually do is shoot at you or blow something up, then throw the weapon under a hay bale and go back to being farmers," says Sgt. Joshua Victorin, a soldier on his fifth deployment.

News arrives that an informer is claiming that the missing soldier is alive and being held by the Taliban in Kuhak, the same village where the soldiers started. With the soldier now confirmed dead, the tip-off appears suspicious.

“If they know that one of our guys is missing, that means that they want us to walk through Kuhak,” said Sgt. Victorin. “It could be an ambush, it could be an IED.”

Reinforcements are called, in the form of Green Berets and surrogate local militias.

Gunfire reverberates around the valley, chattering above the evening prayer and what sounds like children screaming. The helicopters drop chaff and return to base. Darkness falls. As the clatter of rotors fades away, the river’s warbling reasserts itself.

Lt. Ritenour’s company prepares to return to base.

“Exfil is the most dangerous part of the mission,” he says. “We’ve been here for eight hours; therefore, it’s likely that the Taliban have been implanting IEDs around us.”

The company moves silently through waist-high fields to a soundtrack of dogs barking hoarsely from within compounds. A ghostly moon rises from behind a mountain range, shedding silvery light on faces illuminated only by the green pinprick of night-vision goggles.

Light pollution from Kandahar bleeds sickly into the black night from a few miles away.

“A death for us is sacred,” says Sgt. Mason. “No effort will be spared to return that body to its family.”

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/)

“If You And The International Community Pressure Me More, I Swear That I Am Going To Join The Taliban,’ Mr. Karzai Said”



[Thanks to Pham Binh, Military Resistance & Traveling Soldier, who sent this in.]

April 4, 2010 By ALISSA J. RUBIN, NY Times [Excerpt]

On Saturday, Mr. Karzai met with about 60 members of Parliament, mostly his supporters, and berated them for having rejected his proposed new election law. Among other things, the proposal would have given him the power to appoint all the members of the Electoral Complaints Commission, who are currently appointed by the United Nations, the Afghan Supreme Court and the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission.

The Electoral Complaints Commission, which reviews allegations of voting fraud and irregularities, documented the fraud that deprived Mr. Karzai of an outright victory in the presidential election.

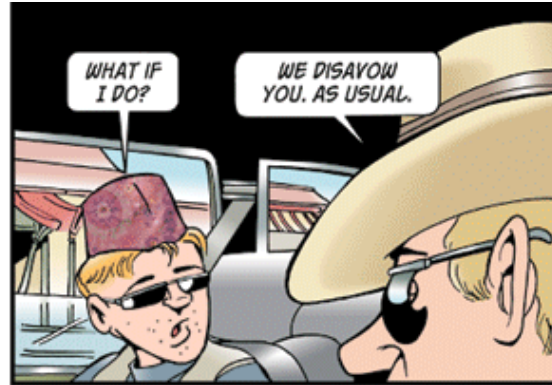
At the meeting, Mr. Karzai stepped up his anti-Western statements, according to a Parliament member who attended but spoke on condition of anonymity.

“If you and the international community pressure me more, I swear that I am going to join the Taliban,” Mr. Karzai said, according to the Parliament member.



OKAY, ARE ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS CULTURALLY OFFENSIVE?

NOT IF YOU DON'T MESS UP THE TRANSLATION.



WHAT IF I DO?

WE DISAVOW YOU. AS USUAL.



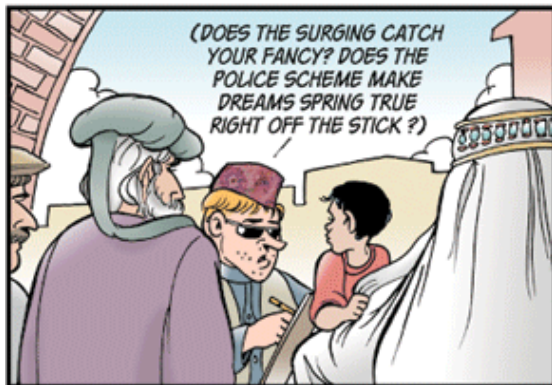
(YES?)

(HELLO, ELDER WHO IS REPUTED!)

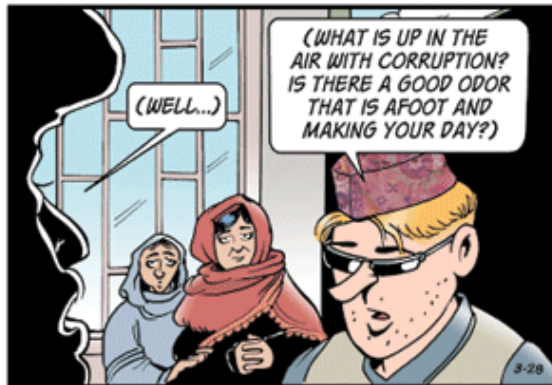


(EXCUSE ME?)

(I AM QUESTION-ASKING FOR SURVEY OF INTELLIGENCE!)

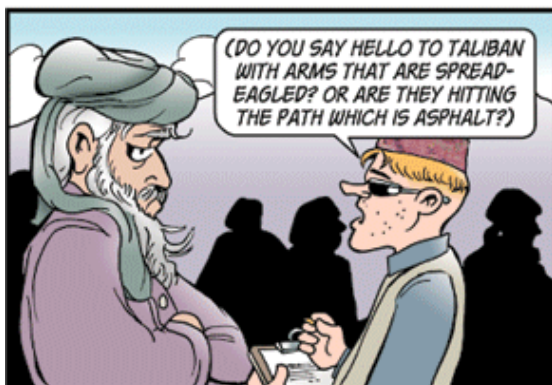


(DOES THE SURGING CATCH YOUR FANCY? DOES THE POLICE SCHEME MAKE DREAMS SPRING TRUE RIGHT OFF THE STICK?)



(WELL...)

(WHAT IS UP IN THE AIR WITH CORRUPTION? IS THERE A GOOD ODOR THAT IS AFOOT AND MAKING YOUR DAY?)



(DO YOU SAY HELLO TO TALIBAN WITH ARMS THAT ARE SPREAD-EAGLED? OR ARE THEY HITTING THE PATH WHICH IS ASPHALT?)



(YOUR PASHTO IS ATROCIOUS.)

(NO, THANKS, AS I AM PREFERRING HAM!)

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



US marines clear IEDs from a main route on the outskirts of Marjah on February 21.
(AFP/Patrick Baz)



U.S. troops in a gunbattle during a patrol in Marjah, Afghanistan, March 19, 2010. (AP
Photo/Dusan Vranic)



A U.S. Army soldier patrolling on the outskirts of the town of Kandahar, southern Afghanistan March 20, 2010. REUTERS/Shamil Zhumatov

Flame Broiled: Fuel Supplies For Occupation Troops In Afghanistan Destroyed, As Usual



Oil tankers destroyed by militants in Pakistani tribal area of Landi Kotal on April 5, 2010. Militants launched attack on oil tankers in northwest Pakistan carrying fuel supplies to U.S. forces in neighboring Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Qazi Rauf)

Welcome To Afghanistan: Have A Nice Day



Taliban insurgents in front of a burning German military vehicle in Isaa Khail village of Char Dara district of the northern Kunduz Province April 3, 2010. Three German soldiers were killed and five others seriously injured in fighting in Kunduz. REUTERS/Wahdat

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

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

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

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



A foreign occupation armed forces member from the USA puts his hands on the body of an Afghan citizen without consent during a patrol as they patrol in Karez-e-Sayyidi, in Helmand province, April 5, 2010. REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih

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 80,000 Afghan troops over here to the USA.

[They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, bomb and 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 a U.S. military prison in the invaded nation 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 killing them wholesale, 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 Barrack Obama.

[Why, how could anybody not love that? You'd want that in your home town, right?]

TROOP NEWS

**THIS IS HOW OBAMA BRINGS THE TROOPS HOME:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



March 4, 2010: Medics carry a wounded U.S. Marine to a waiting U.S. Army 82nd Airborne medevac helicopter for transfer from a combat outpost field hospital to a larger facility farther away, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

**Number Of British Troops Losing
Arms And Legs In Afghanistan
Rising Sharply:**

“The Proportion Who Have Become Multiple Amputees Is Also Increasing”
“One Army Officer Has Been Quoted As Saying That Many Of The Injuries Suffered By Service Personnel Are So Severe That They Are ‘Politically Explosive’”

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

4 April 2010 By Ian Cobain, Guardian News and Media Limited [Excerpts]

The number of British servicemen who have lost limbs after being wounded in Afghanistan is rising sharply, according to official statistics seen by the Guardian.

Fifty-four men lost at least one limb while serving in armed forces in the country last year – more than the total figure for the previous three years.

The proportion of those who have become multiple amputees is also increasing, with almost half of last year’s casualties suffering what is described as “traumatic or surgical amputation” of more than one limb.

The statistics, compiled by the Defence Analytical Services And Advice centre, a division of the Ministry of Defence (MoD), appear to reflect both the Taliban’s increased use of sophisticated roadside bombs to target Nato-led forces, and the developing skill of military medics in treating injuries that might have proved fatal in the past.

However, they do not include casualties this year, during the build-up to the launch of Operation Moshtarak, the drive by Afghan, US and 4,000 British forces against the Taliban in central Helmand.

Last month there were warnings from the National Audit Office (NAO) that hospitals treating the wounded from Afghanistan were close to capacity and under mounting pressure. The main field hospital in Afghanistan at Camp Bastion was said to be coping with casualty levels, but operating close to capacity.

The statistics show that 103 British servicemen suffered amputations after being wounded in Afghanistan between April 2006 and the end of last year.

Of the 54 who had amputations last year, 26 lost two or more limbs.

There have been complaints in the past that the MoD was not disclosing to the public the number of troops who have lost limbs in the conflict.

Although the ministry is now making more detailed casualty statistics available, there remains enormous sensitivity over the large number of troops who are suffering life-changing injuries.

Journalists are effectively barred from Selly Oak, and one army officer has been quoted as saying that many of the injuries suffered by service personnel are so severe that they are “politically explosive”.

The MoD statistics also show that 327 servicemen and women were seriously or very seriously injured in Afghanistan between the beginning of 2002 and the end of last year. Of these, 158 were wounded in 2009. A further 12 suffered similarly serious injuries in January this year.

As of today, when a soldier from 3rd Battalion The Rifles was killed in a blast in the Kajaki area of Helmand province, a total of 280 British soldiers had lost their lives in Afghanistan. Some 108 died last year alone.

Army Lt. Col. Says He Won't Go To Afghanistan Until Obama Provides Birth Certificate

April 3, 2010 & By Leo Shane III, Stars and Stripes & Apr 5, 2010 The Associated Press

GREELEY, Colo. — A Greeley native who says he's an Army lieutenant colonel says he won't go to Afghanistan until President Obama provides his birth certificate showing he's eligible to hold office.

Terry Lakin told The Associated Press that he works at the Pentagon's DiLorenzo Tricare Health Clinic and is attached to a headquarters company at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Lakin, an 18-year soldier, last served overseas in 2005 during a tour with the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Squadron, 25th Infantry Division in Afghanistan.

In a video posted on YouTube, Lakin says he's “choosing to disobey” orders he says are illegal, including an order to deploy to Afghanistan at “great peril” to his career and future. Lakin declined further comment Saturday when reached through his parents.

Officials at the Pentagon and at Walter Reed did not immediately return messages.

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**

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

April 6, 1968: Anniversary Of A Murder By Cowardly Domestic Enemies In Blue



Bobby Hutton

Carl Bunin Peace History April 6-12

Bobby Hutton, the 17-year-old first member of the Black Panther Party was gunned down by officers of the Oakland Police Department.

Police opened fire on a car of Black Panthers returning from a meeting. The Panthers escaped their vehicle and ran into a house. Police attacked the house with tear gas and gunfire.

After the building was on fire, the Panthers tried to surrender.

Hutton came out of the house with his hands in the air.

But a police officer shouted, "He's got a gun." This prompted further police gunfire that left Hutton dead and Panthers co-founder Eldridge Cleaver wounded.

Police later admitted that Hutton was unarmed.

April 6, 1712: Honorable Anniversary: Courageous Slaves Rise To Kill Their Masters; "Death Was Preferable To Life In Bondage"

Carl Bunin Peace History April 6-12

Slavenorth.com & Pbs.org [Excerpts]

In 1712, some slaves in New York City rose up in a crude rebellion that could have been much more deadly, had it been better planned.

As it was, it was among the most serious slave resistances in American history, and sparked a vicious backlash by the authorities.

The stage was set for an uprising.

First, the city had a large population of black slaves -- the result of many years of trade with the West Indies. Secondly, communication and meeting among enslaved persons was relatively easy, since the New York City's inhabitants lived in a small area on the southern tip of Manhattan.

Thirdly, living in such a densely populated area also meant that slaves worked in close proximity to free men, a far cry from the situation on the plantations to the south.

The revolt was led by African-born slaves, who decided death was preferable to life in bondage.

They managed to collect a cache of muskets and other weapons and hide it in an orchard on the edge of town.

On the night of April 6, twenty-four of the conspirators gathered, armed themselves, and set fire to a nearby building. They then hid among trees, and when white citizens rushed up to put out the blaze, the slaves opened fire on them, killing five and wounding six.

The surviving citizens sounded the alarm. Every able-bodied man was pressed into service, and appeals were made to governors of surrounding colonies. The militia pinned down the rebels in the woods of northern Manhattan. The leaders of the uprising committed suicide, and the rest, starving, surrendered.

The death toll in the 1712 uprising doesn't seem high, but in a New York county that, at that time probably numbered some 4,800 whites, it was shocking.

In considering the psychological impact on the survivors, imagine some sort of attack on modern New York, with its 8 million people, that would leave casualties of 10,000 dead.

A special court convened by the governor made short work of the rebels. Of the twenty-seven slaves brought to trial for complicity in the plot, twenty-one were convicted and put to death.

Since the law authorized any degree of punishment in such cases, some unlucky slaves were executed with all the refinements of calculated barbarity.

New Yorkers were treated to a round of grisly spectacles as Negroes were burned alive, racked and broken on the wheel, and gibbeted alive in chains.

In his report of the affair to England, Governor Hunter praised the judges for inventing 'the most exemplary punishments that could be possibly thought of.' “[

White New Yorkers had been apprehensive before the revolt of April 6; now they were spurred into action.

Strict laws were soon enacted, and more would come, over the next thirty years. No longer could more than three black slaves meet. A master could punish his slaves as he saw fit (even for no reason at all), as long as the slave did not lose his or her life or limb. Any slave handling a firearm would receive twenty lashes. Anyone caught gambling would be whipped in public.

Involvement in a conspiracy to kill would result in execution, as would a rape. There was even a law that discouraged masters from freeing a slave:

The master could free a slave, but only after posting a bond of 200 (pounds). This money would be paid to the freed slave if that slave couldn't support himself or herself.

These laws would, in the end, prove to be futile. In 1741, New York would see another uprising.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Apologists For The U.S. Empire
Pretend Israel Dictates U.S.
Government Foreign Policy:
They Blame The Dog, Not The
Master:**

**“A Basic Rule Of Israeli Reality: The
State Of Israel Cannot Start Any Large-
Scale Military Operation Without
American Consent”**

03/04/10 Uri Avnery's Column, Gush-shalom.org [Excerpts]

“HOLD ME back!” is a part of Israeli folklore. It reminds us of our childhood.

When a boy has a scuffle with a bigger and stronger boy, he pretends that he is going to attack him any moment and shouts to the spectators: "Hold me back, or I am going to kill him!"

Israel is now in such a situation. We pretend that we are going to attack Iran at any moment and shout to the entire world: "Hold us back or..."

And the world does indeed hold us back.

IT IS dangerous to prophesy in such matters, especially when we are dealing with people not all of whom are wise and not all of whom are sane. Yet I am ready to maintain: there is no possibility whatsoever that the government of Israel will send the air force to attack Iran.

FIRST OF ALL, a basic rule of Israeli reality: the State of Israel cannot start any large-scale military operation without American consent.

Israel depends on the US in almost every respect, but in no sphere is it more dependent than in the military one.

The aircraft that must execute the mission were supplied to us by the US.

Their efficacy depends on a steady flow of American spare parts. At that range, refueling from US-built tanker aircraft would be necessary.

The same is true for almost all other war material of our army, as well as for the money needed for their acquisition. Everything comes from America.

In 1956, Israel went to war without American consent.

Ben-Gurion thought that his collusion with the UK and France was enough. He was vastly mistaken. One hundred hours after telling us that the "Third Kingdom of Israel" had come into being, he announced with a broken voice that he was going to evacuate all the territories just conquered. President Dwight Eisenhower, together with his Soviet colleague, had submitted an ultimatum, and that was the end of the adventure.

Since then, Israel has not started a single war without securing the agreement of Washington.

On the eve of the Six-day War, a special emissary was sent to the US to make sure that there was indeed American agreement. When he returned with an affirmative answer, the order for the attack was issued.

On the eve of Lebanon War I, Defense Minister Ariel Sharon rushed to Washington to obtain American consent.

He met with Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who agreed – but only on condition that there would be a clear provocation. A few days later there just happened to be an attempt on the life of the Israeli ambassador in London, and the war was on.

The Israeli army's offensives against Hezbollah ("Lebanon War II") and Hamas ("Cast Lead") were possible because they were cast as part of the American campaign against "Radical Islam".

Ostensibly, that is also true for an attack on Iran.

But no.

BECAUSE AN Israeli attack on Iran would cause a military, political and economic disaster for the United States of America.

Since the Iranians, too, realize that Israel could not attack without American consent, they would react accordingly.

As I have written here before, a cursory glance at the map suffices to indicate what would be the immediate reaction. The narrow Hormuz Strait at the entrance of the Persian (or Arabian) Gulf, through which a huge part of the world's oil flows, would be sealed at once. The results would shake the international economy, from the US and Europe to China and Japan. Prices would soar to the skies. The countries that had just begun to recover from the world economic crisis would sink to the depths of misery and unemployment, riots and bankruptcies.

The Strait could be opened only by a military operation on the ground.

The US simply has no troops to spare for this – even if the American public were ready for another war, one much more difficult than even those of Iraq and Afghanistan. It is even doubtful whether the US could help Israel to defend itself against the inevitable counter-stroke by Iranian missiles.

The Israeli attack on a central Islamic country would unite the entire Islamic world, including the entire Arab world.

The US, which has spent the last few years laboring mightily to form a coalition of "moderate" Arab states (meaning: countries governed by dictators kept by the US) against the "radical" states. This pack would immediately become unstuck. No Arab leader would be able to stand aside while the masses of his people were gathering in tumultuous demonstrations in the squares.

All this is clear to any knowledgeable person, and even more so to the American military and civilian leaders.

Secretaries, generals and admirals have been sent to Israel to make this clear to our leaders in a language that even kindergarten kids can understand: No! Lo! La! Nyet!

IF SO, why has the military option not been removed from the table?

Because the US and Israel like it lying there.

The US likes to pose as if it can hardly hold back the ferocious Israeli Rottweiler on its leash. This puts pressure on the other powers to agree to the imposition of sanctions on Iran.

If you don't agree, the murderous dog could leap out of control. Think about the consequences!

Palestinians In A Butcher Shop Beaten And Arrested For “Staring” At Zionist Cops In Occupied Jerusalem

05/04/2010 Ma'an

Five Palestinians sustained bruising on Sunday morning after Israeli special forces allegedly stormed a butcher shop in the Old City of Jerusalem, detaining five employees.

A large Israeli police force was reported to have stormed the shop, near Bab Hutta, firing pepper spray and assaulting both customers and owners, from the Maswada family.

Dawood Tiryaqi, the owner's brother-in-law who was in the butcher's shop at the time, said several groups of Israeli police forces were on their way to Al-Qadisiyya street near Bab Hutta when they suddenly stormed the shop and “started beating us with clubs and spraying pepper spray at us.”

Tiryaqi and his son Muhammad sustained bruises while his wife passed out after inhaling pepper-spray fumes, he said. Two other customers also sustained bruises, according to Tiryaqi.

Five young employees at the butcher's shop were also reportedly detained, identified by the owner as Shadi, Samir and Karim Maswada, as well as Muhannad Qawasmi. The fifth detainee remains unidentified.

Tiryaqi said police claimed the assault was sparked by “stares” from shop patrons directed at the officers.

[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.”]

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DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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