

Military Resistance 8E16

**NOT ANOTHER DAY
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**



A wounded US soldier arrives on May 21 at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in the western German city of Landstuhl, after being airlifted from Afghanistan.
(AFP/Michel Moutot)

**“Snickering Teenagers Chewed
Sunflower Seeds And Spit The
Husks Onto The Visiting Officers’
Uniforms”**

“Mr. Mohammad Spat On The Ground, Hissed ‘We Don’t Want Your Checkpoint,’ And Walked Away”

“On Capt. Krupski’s Next Visit To Emarat, An IED Blew Off The Front End Of His Armored Vehicle”

MAY 26, 2010 By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV, Wall St. Journal [Excerpts]

The contest for Kandahar will be decided only in part by the effectiveness of military operations against the Taliban. The most important battlefield, coalition commanders say, is in the minds of the locals.

On a recent afternoon, Capt. Krupski sat down with the elders of Maaruf Karez, a few miles from the outpost, on a large rug spread in the center of the village, drinking tea.

But when the American patrol returned to Emarat a day after its initial visit for a shura, or meeting, between village residents, foreign forces and the Afghan police, the reception was decidedly chilly.

No rug was spread on the ground, and no tea was offered.

Snickering teenagers, some with the tattoos of Pakistani madrassas, crowded behind Capt. Krupski and the Afghan police representative, Lt. Hashmat Khan.

They chewed sunflower seeds and spit the husks onto the visiting officers’ uniforms.

The village’s five bearded elders bristled at Capt. Krupski’s suggestion that the American forces and the Afghan police could provide security to Emarat. “You travel by day, and the Taliban come here during the night,” said one of the elders, Hajji Gul Mohammad.

“We request you to never come to our village again because we know that, if you keep coming, the Taliban will plant IEDs on our road.”

Lt. Khan suggested that the police could establish a checkpoint in the village. Hearing this, Mr. Mohammad spat on the ground, hissed “we don’t want your checkpoint,” and walked away, clutching his cane.

Two other elders followed suit, and the crowd quickly thinned out.

On Capt. Krupski’s next visit to Emarat, an IED blew off the front end of his armored vehicle, luckily without casualties.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

“This Isn’t Over Yet” “The Insurgency Unleashed By The 2003 U.S. Invasion Remains Entrenched In Some Areas, And Bombings Are Still A Regular Occurrence”

05/28/10 By Waleed Ibrahim, Reuters [Excerpts]

At 10 a.m. (2:00 a.m. ET) on Monday this week, Lieutenant-Colonel Ali Khalaf says the police department in the Iraqi town of Ramadi issued an order for him to return to the force after eight months out of work.

At 1.45 p.m. the same day, a bomb detonated remotely tore through his kitchen wall, killing his 20-year-old nephew, also a police officer.

Fifteen minutes later, a second device rigged to a washing machine timer exploded outside the house.

“Now I will try to get passports for me and my family and we will leave Iraq,” he said by telephone from Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) west of Baghdad.

Four bombs exploded that day outside the homes of three police officers in Ramadi, capital of Anbar province -- once a hotbed of Sunni Islamist insurgents like al Qaeda.

Khalaf’s nephew, his head crushed and one arm ripped off by the blast, was the latest victim in a wave of targeted killings now the modus operandi of the insurgency.

The insurgency unleashed by the 2003 U.S. invasion remains entrenched in some areas, and bombings are still a regular occurrence.

But in recent months, large scale bombings have given way to cold assassination.

Police officers, churned out of academies as frontline forces, are a favorite target, alongside tribal leaders, government officials and former insurgents who switched sides.

“This isn’t over yet,” Lieutenant-General Michael Barbero, a foreign training commander, said this week at the graduation of some 700 Italian-trained federal police outside Baghdad.

[Khalaf] received a text message on his mobile phone that read: “Our swords are thirsty for your blood.”

Then came the bombs.

Khalaf says police corruption and collusion with insurgents runs deep.

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Foreign Occupation Soldier Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced

May 28 AP

A foreign servicemember died following an improvised explosive device attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Marine Sgt. Donald J. Lamar II Killed In Afghanistan; Stafford High Graduate



Marine Sgt. Donald J. Lamar II, 23, had served two tours in Iraq. (Family Photo)

May 15, 2010 By Michael E. Ruane, Washington Post Staff Writer

A Fredericksburg Marine who played football and coached wrestling at Stafford High School has been killed in combat in Afghanistan, according to the Defense Department and family friends.

Marine Sgt. Donald J. Lamar II, 23, a scout/sniper team leader, was killed May 12 in Helmand province, a Taliban stronghold and major opium-producing area, officials said. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force, at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Lamar was a 2004 graduate of Stafford High, where he was on the wrestling team and played running back on the football team, friends said. He joined the Marine Corps in January 2006 and had just been promoted to sergeant March 2.

He had been in Afghanistan only since March, the Marines said, but had served two tours in Iraq -- from March to September 2007 and from July 2008 to February 2009. While stateside, he often made the 300-mile drive from Camp Lejeune to coach wrestling at Stafford High, family friend Chris Grey said.

"He was a bright young man, a fun-loving young man and a good athlete," said David Ripley, a principal intern at the high school.

"He was an exceptional leader on the football team, very well-rounded and liked by so many people because he just had a charismatic personality," Ripley added.

Lamar is survived by his wife, Stephanie, and daughter, Madison; his parents, Don and Coleen Lamar; and two younger brothers. Friends said his family was still too upset to speak publicly about him.

A scholarship fund, "Madison in Memory of Sgt. Donald Lamar," has been set up for his daughter at Virginia's Union First Market Bank. Donations are being accepted at any branch.

San Antonio Family Mourns Death Of Beloved Marine: "Gloria Rangel Says She Didn't Want Her Grandson To Go To Afghanistan This Time Around"

May 10, 2010 by Joe Conger, KENS 5

Lance Corporal Christopher Rangel would never know if his grandmother got the flowers for Mother's Day.

They were roses for a woman who raised him, his sister and his twin brother since he was six months old.

“I considered them my kids. Not my grandkids. My kids,” said Gloria Rangel.

Word came Thursday of her grandson’s death, brought by Marines standing at attention outside her home.

It’s a home now adorned with the familiar red color and anchor of the corps.

Rangel was killed in Afghanistan when his Humvee was ambushed, and he was fatally shot.

Gloria Rangel says she didn’t want her grandson to go to Afghanistan this time around.

She had hung the yellow ribbon in January when he deployed, hoping for his safe return.

“It hurts so much. I’ve been feeling so empty. And there’s a piece of my heart that’s not there. It’s not there,” she said.

McMinnville Soldier Followed Family Tradition



Spc. Jeremy Lynn Brown (source: Fort Campbell)

McMINNVILLE, Tenn. - The family of a Tennessee soldier killed in Afghanistan said the former high school athlete never backed down or gave up on a goal he meant to accomplish.

Spc. Jeremy Lynn Brown, 20, of McMinnville died Sunday when his dismounted patrol received small arms fire near Contingency Outpost Zerok in Afghanistan.

He was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.

His father, Mac Brown, told The Southern Standard newspaper that once his son set a goal, there was no stopping him. He was also a well-rounded athlete who played baseball and was on the football and wrestling teams for Warren County High School, where he graduated in May 2007.

"I can't tell you how many coaches told me how good a ballplayer he was for his size," said Mac Brown. "He only weighed 130 pounds but that didn't stop him. He always wanted to bang heads with somebody who was bigger than he was. And he didn't ever back down."

Brown joined the Army in June 2007 and arrived at Fort Campbell in May 2009. He was a fire support specialist.

Mac Brown said his son wanted to serve in the military like many other members of his family, including two grandfathers who served in World War II and an uncle who served in Vietnam. He also has two cousins serving in the military.

"He was so young, it's just been devastating," said his uncle Pat Brown. "With all of us being in the military and with all of our deployments, I guess you start thinking the family is bulletproof. Maybe that's why we're all so shocked."

Funeral arrangements were not yet complete. He will be buried in Mt. View Cemetery.

Texas Sailor Who Served As 'Doc' Killed By Afghan Bomb



Petty Officer Zarian Wood died Sunday of wounds suffered in Afghanistan. Photo: Mayra Beltran, Chronicle

May 18, 2010 By LINDSAY WISE, HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Before he deployed to Afghanistan last month, Zarian Wood visited his father and brother for a week at their home in south Houston. The three men played video games, dined on steak and shrimp and lounged on camping chairs in the driveway.

It was like a mini family reunion, recalled his father, Daniel Wood.

“Just before he left, he told me, ‘Dad, take care of yourself and everything, and I’ll be back,’” he said.

The 29-year-old Navy petty officer third class from Houston died Sunday of wounds inflicted by a bomb blast during a foot patrol in Helmand Province.

He had only been in Afghanistan about 3½ weeks.

“He was a good honest Christian man,” said his father, a 63-year-old Vietnam veteran. “He thought he went over there to help children and help the country better itself, and wham.”

The father took a shaking breath, still stunned by the news.

“Ah well, he’s with the good Lord, you know,” he said.

Nicknamed “Z,” Zarian graduated in 1999 from South Houston High School, where he’d competed on the wrestling team.

He worked as a youth pastor and tutor for troubled kids on Houston’s northeast side and a merchandiser for Coca-Cola before enlisting in 2006.

His decision to undergo rigorous training to become a hospital corpsman was very much in character for him, his relatives say.

“He was a very giving young man and my mother taught all of us that when you have nothing to give you have yourself to give,” said his sister, Teresa Robertson.

Zarian deployed to Iraq from 2007-2008.

His relatives said he volunteered for his second combat tour, this time a seven-month stint in Afghanistan, where he served as “Doc” on the front lines alongside Marine infantrymen from Camp Pendleton, Calif. He was assigned to India Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

“He was taking care of other folks,” his father said. “He was doing what he wanted to do, and he was doing it for his beliefs. He didn’t want younger men to have to see and do what he’d seen and done over there.”

Zarian was the third Texan and third member of this Marine battalion to be killed in Afghanistan recently.

Cpl. Jeffrey Johnson, 21, of Tomball was also killed May 11 by an improvised explosive device while on a foot patrol. Sgt. Kenneth B. May Jr., 26, of Kilgore, also died in that attack. Johnson and May served in Weapons Company.

The close-knit Wood family gathered on Tuesday to make funeral arrangements and remember the fallen corpsman.

“He had a good heart, very outgoing, worked out at the gym every day,” said his older brother, Zachary Wood. “He cared about his looks.”

“He was very meticulous about that,” his father said with a laugh. “He was a handsome man.”

He was an honest man, too, even to the point of being blunt, his brother said.

“Yeah, he’d tell you in a flat minute if you were wrong,” his father said. “Then again, he’d stand up for you in a flat minute if you were right.”

He said his son dreamed of going back to school someday.

“He wanted to study radiology and then after he got that degree, he was going to try to become a dentist,” he said.

“He was all about living life, living life to the fullest,” his brother said.

Zarian was preceded in death by his mother, Nellie Sue Wood.

He is survived by his father, Daniel Wood, and siblings Zachary Wood, Krista Hamilton, Teresa Robertson, Victor Robertson and Micah Dixon. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Marine Dies For Country He Loved



Marine Cpl. Nicholas Parada-Rodriguez was killed in the line of duty Sunday.

5/19/2010 By RUSTY DENNEN, The Free Lance-Star

Marine Cpl. Nicholas Parada-Rodriguez was born in El Salvador.

But Lisandro, his older brother, says that when the family moved to Northern Virginia when Nicholas was 5, he quickly fell in love with America.

Over the weekend, Parada-Rodriguez, 29, paid the ultimate price for his adopted land--killed by an enemy bullet Sunday in Afghanistan's Helmand province. He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Lejeune.

He was the second area Marine killed in the line of duty in less than a week. Sgt. Donald J. Lamar II, 23, of Stafford, died May 12 in Afghanistan.

Lisandro said of his brother, "He was family-oriented. He loved his family, his nephews, nieces."

Lisandro, their mother, Luisa, and his two sisters, Norma and Maria Parada, yesterday were mourning at the family home off Choptank Road in Stafford, where they've lived for seven years.

"When he was a little boy, he dreamed to be a soldier," his brother said. After graduating from Robert E. Lee High School in Springfield, he joined the Navy. After four years, he got out, found a job with a security company, but missed the military.

He joined the Marines in 2006 and was stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

"He used to drive up here every weekend to see his family. The other thing he was very proud of--he loved his country."

Lisandro recalled, "He looked kind of mean, but when you talked to him, he used to joke and play and meet people," at the store their mother used to have in Garrisonville. "He was a very decent guy and down-to-earth. He had a huge heart."

Nicholas was on his second deployment to Afghanistan, looking forward to coming home in two months.

He would have turned 30 in June.

Lisandro said his brother often talked about comrades who had been killed or wounded. The family has a cousin serving in the Marines.

Lisandro said that, in his calls home, Nicholas told his family not to worry about him.

In one of their recent conversations, Lisandro said his brother told him, "If you don't hear from me, everything's OK. If you do hear from the Marines, something's happened."

Lisandro was home on Sunday when two Marines, both officers, knocked on the door to deliver the news.

Lisandro said the family is "devastated."

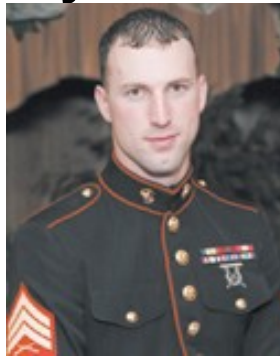
Funeral arrangements are incomplete, but Lisandro said Nicholas wanted to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery if anything happened.

“He’s my only little brother. I used to take care of him. I’m sorry, but at the same time, I’m very proud.”

Olga Lara, Lisandro’s girlfriend, first met Nicholas in 2006.

“He was my best friend,” she said. “Even though he had that stern look, he was always doing funny stuff. He was a fun person.”

Sgt. Kenneth May Killed In Afghanistan



May 15, 2010 By J. LOUISE LARSON, Kilgore News Herald

American flags streamed a somber tribute Friday in the home neighborhood of U.S. Marine Sgt. Kenneth May Jr.

The 2002 Kilgore High School graduate was killed Tuesday while on foot patrol in Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom.

May, 26, had served two tours in Iraq and was deployed just two weeks ago to Afghanistan, where he was killed by an IED on May 11, the day after his second wedding anniversary.

May was assigned to the Third Battalion, first Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Also killed in the explosion was Marine Cpl. Jeffrey W. Johnson.

May’s parents, Kenneth Sr. and Karen have tender memories of their last connections with their son.

He was just home for a week in April before re-deploying.

“He wasn’t too worried about those ones, but he was worried about this one. He knew it was a hotspot,” his dad recalled.

Condolences have come in from near and far for the fallen Marine. The Rotary Club put flags up in the neighborhood, and U.S. Sen. John McCain called from his personal cell phone to express his condolences to the Mays and assure them of his support.

Known to his friends and family as Kenny, Kenneth May Jr. was a brilliant student with many academic options who wanted to serve his country and put himself through school.

“He could have done anything in the Marine Corps – he tested off the charts, but he chose to be an infantryman,” his dad said.

May left Kilgore College to enlist just a few credits short of a diploma.

(Kenneth Sr. said he will ask Kilgore College President Bill Holda to issue Kenny an honorary diploma.)

He loved the Latin language, and on his forearms, May had Latin tattoos – “Strength and justice” on one, “Honor and truth” on the other. (“That’s kind of like Kenny, summed up in four words,” Karen May said.)

He deeply felt his status as a “junior,” writing about Kenneth May Sr. on his Myspace site.

“We are so much alike in appearance and behavior that sometimes I jokingly refer to myself as Ken 2.0. I like to tell him that I’ve got none of his flaws and all of his strengths, but really, it’s more the other way around,” the younger May wrote.

His Myspace site included another favorite Latin quote, “Via ad pax pavimentatum cum sanguis,” - the road to peace is paved with blood.

He wrote there about his reconciliation to his difficult job as a Marine.

“The Warrior, the way I have made the word to mean in my own mind, is one of the elite caste of mankind who do something that no other profession does... they seek to make their jobs disappear. The Warrior is one who desires nothing more than to lay down his sword (or rifle, whatever) and never do harm again. The Warrior, whose sole reason for existence is War, is the seeker of Peace,” May wrote.

He married his high school sweetheart, Krystal Barton, two years ago.

“He called her his soulmate. Krystal was the love of his life – he was lucky he found her,” his mother said, recalling her son as patriotic from childhood and possessing an intense personal faith. “He loved his wife, he loved us, he loved God more than anything,” Karen May said. “He wanted to be known as a Christian man first.”

He had a tattoo on his back that showed an open casket, and with his own date of birth and a Marine buddy’s date of death. Asked what it meant, he said, “Death can’t hold me – I’m saved.”

The Mays don't sorrow as those who have no hope. The elder May's voice broke as he shared a statement of faith about his son. "God gave him to us, and He missed him so much, He took him back early."

In fact, it was Kenny who reminded them of all he had learned from them as a child when he called his mother Sunday for Mothers Day.

As a result, Karen May will always remember 1 Cor. 15:55.

"Mom, don't worry about me. You need to study up on your Corinthians, Mom," he told her, reciting the verse: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

"That was one of the last things he said to me," she said.

And now she is a member of the saddest sorority of all.

A neighbor made a banner for the window portraying her status as a U.S. military Gold Star mother – one who has lost a son in the line of duty.

Wearing red to support the troops instead of the black of mourning at a Friday interview, Kenneth May Sr. would ask just one thing of the community – continued recognition and prayers for the servicemen and servicewomen in harm's way.

"For some reason, we've lost sight of our men and women in uniform who are out supporting their families," he said.

"Red shirt Fridays around here doesn't mean anything but Kilgore football, and I understand that, but I'd like to see a little more of that," he said.

U.S. Marine Sgt. Kenneth B. May Jr. will be accompanied home to his final resting place by the Patriot Guard and a Marine escort, which will include the Marine who was the best man at his wedding.

Services are pending, with Rader Funeral Home of Kilgore in charge of arrangements.

A memorial fund has been established at Austin Bank, and proceeds after funeral expenses will be donated to charity in Kenny's honor.

He leaves behind his wife, Krystal (Barton) May, his parents, Kenneth and Karen May and sister Kalynne May, all of Kilgore, and his in-laws Pastor Glenn and Wilma Barton, also of the Kilgore area.

Marine Mourned

May 15, 2010 By PATRICK JOHNSON and GEORGE GRAHAM, Staff writers, The Republican

LUDLOW - When Frank Evangelista, owner of Frank's Diner on East Street, thinks of the late Marine Sgt. Joshua D. Desforjes he remembers a smiling young man in a Santa Claus hat.

A few years ago around Christmas time, Desforjes, a Ludlow native, and a buddy came into the diner to seek donations for the U.S. Marines' Toy for Tots program.

Desforjes had a smile on his face and a Santa hat on his head, he recalled.

He was a happy-go-lucky kid ... a nice kid, a good kid," Evangelista said.

Throughout Ludlow, Western Massachusetts and the larger fraternity of Marines, there was a shared sadness as news spread of Desforjes' death Wednesday in a remote section of Afghanistan.

Desforjes, 23, a six-year veteran of the Marine Corps, died "as a result of a hostile incident while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan," according to a statement issued by the 2nd Division Office of Public Affairs.

He was a squad leader assigned to the 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 7, I Marine Expeditionary Force Forward.

He was midway through his second tour in Afghanistan, having been deployed there in December, the statement read. His previous tour was March through September 2008.

A statement issued by his parents, David and Arlene Desforjes, of West Street, on Friday afternoon through the office of Sen. John F. Kerry, said "We mourn the death of Sgt. Joshua Desforjes, - a son, a brother, a grandson, a nephew, and American hero - but most of all, our best friend."

The statement goes on to ask people respect the family's wish for privacy in the coming days as it grieves his loss.

The statement also notes that Desforjes died living his life's dream, which was to be a member of the U.S. Marine Corps.

"It was his calling in life and like everything else, he took to it at full throttle. Josh loved being a Marine," the statement said.

"In the Marines, in Afghanistan, he was Sgt. Desforjes. At home he was Josh, our boy," the statement said. "To call him a hero just doesn't seem enough."

Sgt. Major Edward C. Mitrook of the Westover Young Marine program, who met Desforjes when he joined the program at age 12, said that since the news of his death began spreading, he has drained the battery on his cell phone fielding calls from his friends all over the country.

"I've gotten a lot of calls from his friends in the program and in the Marine Corps," said Mitrook, of East Longmeadow. "He was a good kid."

In Ludlow, flags flew at half-staff. The message board outside Ludlow High School honored Desforjes, a 2004 graduate. "Semper Fi - Sgt. Desforjes - Our Hero."

Semper Fi is short for the Marine Corps motto: "Semper Fidelis," which is Latin for "always faithful."

Mitrook said Desforjes was that and more; he was born to be a Marine.

"Josh was one of those kids. When he was 5-6 years old, that was his big thing - he wanted to go into the Marines."

And as soon as he graduated from high school in 2004, Mitrook said, he did.

He joined the Marine Corps in September 2004, and was promoted to the rank of sergeant on Jan. 1, 2008.

5 Vermont Soldiers Wounded In Afghan Attack

May 28, 2010 By Wilson Ring, The Associated Press [Excerpts]

Five Vermont National Guard soldiers were among those wounded helping repel an attack last week on the main U.S. military base in Afghanistan, but none of them suffered life-threatening injuries, their commander said Thursday.

Col. Will Roy said one Vermont soldier needed to be evacuated to the United States for treatment of a serious leg wound.

He wouldn't identify any of the wounded.

Roy said the Vermonters, along with servicemen from a U.S. Air Force security squadron, repelled the early morning May 19 attack by insurgents on Bagram Air Force Base. A U.S. contractor died and two U.S. Marines and two Air Force security personnel were also wounded.

The Bagram attack was launched at about 3 a.m.

A number of the Vermonters were patrolling the area outside the base fence in groups of 16 to 24 soldiers accompanied by six to 12 Afghan security personnel. Other Vermonters responded from inside the perimeter with the Air Force personnel.

Taliban Fighters Have Taken Control Of The Barg-E-Matal District “After Days Of Fighting” “There Were No Signs Of Reinforcements Despite Repeated Requests”

[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

May 29, 2010 Al Jazeera

Taliban fighters have taken control of the Barg-e-Matal district, in the eastern Afghan province of Nuristan, local police and the Taliban have said.

A Taliban spokesman told Al-Jazeera that 300 of the group's fighters over-ran the district on Friday night.

The battle in the remote area bordering Pakistan started earlier this week when hundreds of Taliban fighters stormed the area's administrative headquarters, Qasim Payman, Nuristan's police chief, said.

Hundreds of armed villagers, known as Lashkar-i-Qaomi (the army of tribes) had joined forces with police to fight the group, Payman said.

“The police force in the area has tactically retreated from the district after days of fighting,” he told Reuters news agency, saying there were no signs of reinforcements despite repeated requests.

Jamaluddin Badar, provincial governor of Nuristan, said Afghan forces had retreated in order to prepare for a counter attack.

“We have lost the district to the Taliban ... but will push them back soon,” he said. **[No doubt, but perhaps not just yet.]**

Zabihullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, confirmed the group now controlled the district.

“The Taliban flag is flying high in the district centre and it is a huge victory for our fighters,” he told Reuters by telephone from an undisclosed location.

“Our fighters are still clearing other villages and looking for Afghan police and their supporters.”

US forces announced plans to withdraw from the area as part of US commander General Stanley McChrystal's strategy to focus his forces on population centres in Afghanistan.

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

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

Occupation Fuel Supply Truck Blown Up; Casualties Not Announced



A burning fuel tanker after an explosion caused by a bomb in Jalalabad, eastern Afghanistan May 28, 2010. The truck was on its way to supply fuel to a foreign military base. Police said it was not immediately clear whether there were any casualties. REUTER/Parwiz

UNREMITTING HELL ON EARTH; ALL HOME NOW



U.S. Marines 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines return fire during a shootout with Taliban fighters in Karez-e-Sayyidi, in the outskirts of Marjah district, Helmand province, May 15, 2010. REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih



U.S. Marines from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines look on as an IED explodes while they are on a patrol in Marjah district, Helmand province, May 18, 2010. REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih



U.S. Marines from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines look on as an IED explodes while they are on a patrol in Marjah district, Helmand province, May 21, 2010. REUTERS/Asmaa Waguih



U.S. soldiers find a vehicle filled with explosives near Jalalabad air base in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, May 27, 2010. (AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.” Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

TROOP NEWS

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



The casket of Army Spc. Jason Fingar, 24, of Columbia, Mo., at the Columbia Regional Airport on May 28, 2010. Fingar was killed while serving in Afghanistan when his military vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. (AP Photo/Columbia Daily Tribune, Don Shrubshell)

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**

Confusion



8” artillery gun on a firebase near An Khe, Vietnam 1970. Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: May 24, 2010
Subject: Confusion

Confusion

The following quote is from a conversation I recently had with a Vietnam vet I met at the Portland, Oregon VA hospital.

“Vietnam was not the patriotism of World War II. I got my soul shot off in Vietnam, and then slithered back into my home town with zero respect and understanding for my anger. That’s what happens when you go to war for a lie. My government betrayed me, not the anti-war movement. Jesus Christ, I feel sorry for the young vets. They’ve had so many deployments for the same lies, and they are coming home to a country that has run out of jobs.”

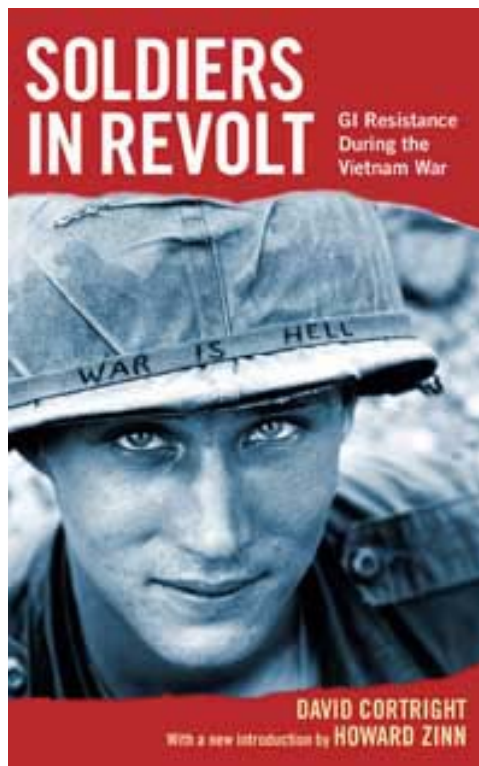
**Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.
Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
May 24, 2010**

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
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004**

**“GI Activists Should Remain On Base
And Work Directly With People At Their
Jobs And In The Barracks”**
**“This Should Be Part Of A General Shift
In The Locus Of GI Action Away From
Off-Base Coffeehouses, Back To The
Barracks”.**



From: SOLDIERS IN REVOLT: DAVID CORTRIGHT, Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1975. Now available in paperback from Haymarket Books. [Excerpts]

[By activists with the paper *Fight Back* in Germany, 1973. Excerpts]

Radicals Must Join The Army.

The role of radicals who purposely join the services to organize has been important throughout the GI movement and remains so today. Within the *Fight Back* group, in the GI Alliance in Tacoma, and at numerous other projects, former civilian activists, some of whom gave up deferments to join, have been a vital force in sustaining GI dissent.

The presence of even a few hundred committed activists could have great impact on the level of servicemen's dissent.

Civilian Support Is Crucial:

As we have seen throughout the history of the GI movement, such support has been a crucial ingredient of successful organizing. Civilian activists are most needed as political workers and counselors at local projects.

Peace organizations should adopt programs for training civilians in military counseling and supporting them during a tour of duty working directly with servicemen at major bases.

A Newspaper Or Newsletter Is Necessary:

Nearly every servicemen's organization has coalesced around a newspaper as the best means available for communicating with other GIs.

An important variation of this is unit newsletters, pioneered at Fort Lewis, to expose abuses within individual units and mobilize political pressure at the local level. Unit newsletters appearing on a biweekly basis could then be supplemented by a monthly or bimonthly base-wide newspaper.

This should be part of a general shift in the locus of GI action away from off-base coffeehouses, back to the barracks.

Off-base locations are still needed for printing and counseling activities by civilian staffers, but GI activists should remain on base and work directly with people at their jobs and in the barracks

Regardless of what form it takes, though, citizen action must continue.

Continued work is necessary to establish democratic control over the institutions of war and to secure independence and dignity for people in the ranks.

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

May 29, 1932: Betrayed Veterans March On Washington DC



The St. Louis contingent of the Bonus Expeditionary Force is pictured here as it starts for Washington, D.C., in May 1932.

Carl Bunin Peace History May 28-June 3

In the depths of the Great Depression, the “Bonus Expeditionary Force,” a group of 1,000 World War I veterans seeking cash payments for their veterans’ bonus certificates, arrived in Washington, D.C.

By mid-June, they had set up a massive “Hooverville,” a contemporary term for an encampment of the homeless.

One month later, other veteran groups made their way to the nation’s capital, swelling the Bonus Marchers to nearly 20,000 strong, most of them unemployed veterans in difficult financial straits.

In direct violation of the Posse Comitatus Act, they were violently disbanded by the Army in July.

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

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DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS



Experts Propose Plugging Oil Leak With BP Executives

May 25, 2010 The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON – At a conference of oil leak experts in Washington today, attendees proposed plugging the massive oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico with executives of BP, the company responsible for the catastrophic spill.

“We’ve tried containment domes, rubber tires, and even golf balls,” said William Cathermeyer of the National Oil Leakage Institute, a leading consultancy in the field of oil leaks. “Now it’s time to shove some BP executives down there and hope for the best.”

Submerging the oil company executives thousands of feet below the ocean’s surface could be a “win-win” situation, Mr. Cathermeyer said.

“Best-case scenario, they plug the leak,” he said.

“And at the very least, they’ll shut the fuck up.”

But even as the oil leak experts proposed their unorthodox solution, environmental expert Marilyn Sufranski warned of the possible negative consequences of plugging the oil leak with BP executives.

“The Gulf of Mexico is slimy enough already,” she said.

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

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NOTE WELL: They will all be different issues of GI Special to satisfy DOD regs that you may possess copies, *provided you don't have more than one of the same issue.*

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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/)

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization.

Vietnam GI: Reprints Available



Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War

Not available from anybody else, anywhere

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command. The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

The Military Project has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

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Cost for others: \$15 if picked up in New York City. For mailing inside USA add \$5 for bubble bag and postage. For outside USA, include extra for mailing 2.5 pounds to wherever you are.

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All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces opposed to today's Imperial wars.

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<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

<http://williambowles.info/wordpress/category/military-resistance/> ;

news@uruknet.info; http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/

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