

## **Military Resistance 8E2**

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



The remains of Army Staff Sgt. Scott W. Brunkhorst, Arlington National Cemetery April 13, 2010. Brunkhorst, 25, of Fayetteville, N.C.; died March 30 in the Arghandab river valley, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. (AP Photo/Kevin Wolf)

**Business As Usual:  
Pakistani Smugglers Supplying  
Afghan Bombmakers With  
Ammonium Nitrate:  
“I Know That It's Used To Kill  
American Soldiers,’ Said The  
Businessman”**

# “These Shipments Always Reach Their Destination”

May 1, 2010 By Alex Rodriguez, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts]

Reporting from Peshawar, Pakistan

Twice a week, a caravan of trucks lumbers out of this volatile northwest Pakistan city in the dead of night and makes its way toward Afghanistan, loaded with one of the most coveted substances in a Taliban bombmaker's arsenal: ammonium nitrate fertilizer. Every time the illicit caravan makes its trip, it moves unhindered past a gantlet of Pakistani police checkpoints along the Pak-Afghan Highway.

A string of bribes paid out to police, politicians and bureaucrats ensures that the smuggled explosive agent reaches its destination, middlemen on the Afghan side of the border who sell it to insurgents, says the co-owner of a Pakistani trucking firm that dispatches the caravans.

Banned in Afghanistan, ammonium nitrate is the basic ingredient of the Taliban's roadside bombs.

The amounts ferried into Afghanistan are staggering. Each truck carries 130 bags, each of which contains 110 pounds of ammonium nitrate. A caravan typically has least 12 trucks, which means a single night's shipment can move 85 tons of the fertilizer.

The caravans head out every third night.

“I know that it's used to kill American soldiers,” said the businessman, a lanky, thirtysomething Pashtun from the Khyber district in Pakistan's tribal areas, a haven for Taliban militants. He agreed to discuss his company's smuggling activity on condition that he not be named.

Of all the threats U.S. troops face in Afghanistan, the roadside bomb is the one they dread most. Western forces have suffered 602 combat-related deaths since the beginning of 2009, and 361, or three of five, have been caused by roadside bombs, according to [icasualties.org](http://icasualties.org) a website that keeps track of war-related deaths in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In Afghanistan, a typical homemade bomb weighs about 65 pounds, most of it ammonium nitrate.

A shipment of 85 tons of ammonium nitrate could yield more than 2,500 bombs.

Made by combining ammonia gas and nitric acid, ammonium nitrate is one of the world's most popular fertilizers. It was used by Afghan farmers, but because of the roadside bombs, the United States persuaded President Hamid Karzai's government to ban the substance in January.

But Pakistani smugglers continue to truck massive amounts into Afghanistan.

Pakistan manufactures 496,000 tons of ammonium nitrate fertilizer each year. It also imports ammonium nitrate from several countries, including China, Germany and Sweden, Comer said. "I can't find anyone who thinks ammonium nitrate makes sense as a fertilizer as opposed to what's more commonly used in both (Pakistan and Afghanistan), which is urea," Comer said.

Officials in Islamabad say such a ban would be a hard sell in Pakistan. "It would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars for the manufacturer to switch to urea," said Qadir Bux Baloch, spokesman for the Pakistani Agriculture Ministry.

As long as ammonium nitrate remains legal in Pakistan, the United States will have to rely on Pakistani police and border authorities to curb smuggling. For the time being, however, rampant corruption within the ranks of law enforcement and local government allows ammonium nitrate to be smuggled freely into Afghanistan.

The Khyber businessman said his company pays about \$830 in bribes for a single truckload of ammonium nitrate. About 40% of that goes to local police, he said, and the rest gets paid out to local officials.

Middlemen on the other side of the border bribe Afghan authorities so they can transfer the shipments to their own trucks and move the explosive agent through their country, the Khyber businessman said.

The businessman says he clears about \$950 a month smuggling ammonium nitrate. At least eight trucking firms with warehouses on the outskirts of Peshawar regularly smuggle the substance into Afghanistan, he said.

Authorities in Peshawar have never raided his warehouse, he said. "There are only a few police officials in Peshawar who know about what we do, and we bribe them."

Peshawar's top administrative official, Commissioner Azam Khan, said no Pakistani court had ever convicted anyone of smuggling ammonium nitrate into Afghanistan.

Even if Pakistani authorities took steps to clamp down on ammonium nitrate smuggling, the Khyber businessman said, he doubted they would derail his operation.

Along Pakistan's tribal belt, where smuggling is a way of life, the policemen and bureaucrats accustomed to a steady stream of payoffs aren't likely to turn over a new leaf anytime soon.

"Never have these supplies been interfered with," the businessman said, chuckling as he sipped cola from a plastic cup in a darkened office. "These shipments always reach their destination."

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

# **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

## **Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced**

May. 2, 2010 The Associated Press

NATO said a service member died after an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan Sunday.

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## **Newport Soldier Killed In Afghanistan**

April 20, 2010 by Michelle Swartz, Monroenews.com

Army Cpl. Michael K. Ingram Jr., 23, of Newport was killed Saturday while serving in Afghanistan.

His father, Michael Ingram Sr. of Newport, did not know the details of his son's death. Regardless, he said he would rather focus on his life.

“He was known for his smile. He was never negative. He was always happy,” he said this morning. “He was looking forward to coming home and seeing his family and friends and a (Detroit) Tigers game.”

Funeral services are pending at Merkle Funeral Services. He will be buried at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Better known to his family and friends as Mikey, Cpl. Ingram had been serving in Afghanistan for the past year. He was the leader over a small group of soldiers.

“He was injured a few weeks ago that would have required surgery when he came home. He didn't want to come home early because he didn't want to leave his guys over there,” his father said.

He was able to return home for a couple of weeks at Christmas, and Mr. Ingram last spoke with his son about a month ago.

“He said things were really starting to heat up over there, and that they still had a lot to do before they were able to leave. He said it was going to get dangerous,” he recalled.

A 2005 Monroe High School graduate, Army Cpl. Ingram planned on a career in law enforcement after his time in the service. He was scheduled to return home June 5.

“Ever since he was a little kid, he wanted to join the Army,” Mr. Ingram said.

“But he was ready to come home because he wanted to be back with his family and friends. That’s all he talked about. His last Facebook post said something like ‘Let’s go boys...just a few more weeks.’”

The actual message on Facebook, posted by Cpl. Ingram on April 13, reads “Come on fellas hold it together...almost home.”

Another post on his Facebook page reads, “I love my family..my lil bro, lil sis...can't wait till I'm out of the Army.”

He completed basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., and was stationed at Fort Carson, Colo.

In addition to his father, he is survived by his mother, Patricia Kitts of Colorado; two brothers, Kyle of Newport and Jason of Colorado; a sister, Chelsea Ingram of Colorado, and a stepmother, Julie Ingram.

His aunt, Pam Ingram of Monroe, said Cpl. Ingram is a hero.

“He has been commended for his bravery and leadership while he’s been in Afghanistan,” she said this morning. “He was loved by everyone. He was a sweet, kind and caring kid that everyone liked.”

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## **Fallen Soldier's Dad Says Son Was Killed By Suicide Bomber**



April 23, 2010 By Curt Brown, South Coast Media

FALL RIVER — Army National Guard Sgt. Robert J. Barrett was killed when a suicide bomber, standing next to the soldier, detonated the explosives, according to his father, Paul Barrett.

In an interview at the family's home on Thursday, Paul Barrett, said Army Lt. Col. James Hally — his son's commanding officer — told him the circumstances of the death, which occurred while Sgt. Barrett was on foot patrol south of Kabul International Airport in Afghanistan.

He said an insurgent had stolen an Afghan uniform and infiltrated a group of nationals that his son and eight other soldiers were training to be police officers. The insurgent wore the uniform loosely on his body, concealing the explosives that Paul Barrett said were contained in either a vest or on a belt.

He said his son was only “a foot away” when the bomb was detonated.

“It happened so fast, literally within a tenth-of-a-second he was gone,” Paul Barrett said.

Sgt. Barrett, 21, was the closest soldier to the bomber, and his injuries were the only one that were fatal, Paul Barrett said.

The military told him that one of the injured soldiers is returning to the U.S. for additional surgery, while the other seven have all returned to duty.

He said he only learned the circumstances of his son's death Tuesday night at a meeting at the Dwelly Street National Guard Armory.

Paul Barrett said he is a Vietnam-era veteran of the U.S. Army and understands the circumstances that led to his son's death, explaining it is often hard to distinguish friend from foe in Afghanistan as it was in Vietnam.

“It was just like Vietnam. You didn't know who was the VC (Viet Cong),” he said.

He said he and his wife, Carleen, had just received a phone call from their son Sunday afternoon, while they were shopping at Home Depot.

“He said, 'Hey! How are you?' He just called to shoot the breeze. We talked to him for about 30 minutes,” he said.

He said the family — which includes his son's daughter, Sophie Alexandra Barrett, who turns 3 in August; sister, Rebecca, 27; and a 77-year-old grandmother, Sue Galloway — are “numb,” and are looking ahead to the funeral.

The family learned Thursday that Sgt. Barrett's body had arrived at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

Arrangements have not been finalized, but tentatively he will be waked Saturday, May 1, in the auditorium of his alma mater, B.M.C. Durfee High School, followed by a Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, Fall River, Paul Barrett said.

Sgt. Barrett was a 2007 graduate of Durfee.

He said his son's duty was to enter the coordinates into a Howitzer, while assigned to the 1st Battalion, 101st Field Artillery Regiment.

He said it is baffling how his son ended up being on a foot patrol, training Afghan nationals to be police officers on the day he died. The only explanation he can think of is that his son must have volunteered for the assignment.

He said his son was respectful to everyone, treated people like family and would frequently go out of his way for others — even for people he didn't know.

“You met Robert one time, you didn't forget him. He had an infectious smile,” his father said.

“He was always giving with his life. You needed a ride, he was there, always,” he said. “He treated everyone as a relative.”

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## Family Lays Fallen Soldier To Rest



An honor guard from the 101st Airborne Division carries Private First Class Jonathon David Hall's casket away from his family and friends after a service at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga on Monday afternoon. Hall was killed by an IED while on duty in Afghanistan. Staff photo by Jake Daniels/Chattanooga Times Free Press

April 20, 2010 By: Todd South; Chattanooga Times Free Press

Lt. Col. Steven Hall stood by his son all of his life. As a father, that was never a problem. But the last 11 days have taken their toll.

The Air Force colonel walked the room Monday, greeting relatives and friends at the funeral service for his son, Pfc. Jonathon David Hall.

“Thank you, thank you,” he said in a hushed tone as people lined up to comfort him, though he seemed ready to comfort them.

On a long table in Woodland Park Baptist Church, framed photos of a blond-haired baby boy stood amid a hockey ballcap, a yearbook and sketches of a moose.

A left-handed, dust-covered glove, a black ink pen, a blue pocket-sized New Testament, a green book of matches, dogtags -- these things also lay on the table. They were some of what Pfc. Hall carried with him on his last combat patrol.

At the other end, a Purple Heart sat shining in its box.

Across a room that was quiet but for muffled sobs and whispers rested his body. His crisp, green uniform held rows of ribbons and medals. A teddy bear perched inside the casket looked down on the young soldier, 23 years old when he died.

On each side of him fellow soldiers stood. Pfc. Ryan Claiborne managed to stand stiffly for awhile wearing a white neck brace.

He was driving the truck and sitting just a few feet from Pfc. Hall on April 8 when a roadside bomb erupted beneath the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, flipping it over, breaking Pfc. Claiborne's back, injuring three others and causing a massive brain injury to Pfc. Hall, a combat medic.

The soldiers were on patrol in Afghanistan's Paktika province with the U.S. Army's 3rd of the 187th Infantry Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, part of the 101st Airborne Division, stationed in Fort Campbell, Ky. The unit had been deployed there less than two months.

Pfc. Claiborne couldn't talk about the mission but said his friend, Pfc. Hall, was a great medic and soldier.

"He just wanted to better himself," he said.

After the explosion, Pfc. Hall, still alive, was flown to an Army hospital in Germany where his parents met him.

"We spent 23 hours with him," Lt. Col. Hall said.

With no chance of recovery and life slipping away, the family allowed doctors to harvest the private's organs, which saved or improved the lives of six people in Europe.

Lt. Col. Hall asked to accompany his son's body home. He flew with him from Germany to the United States and on to Tennessee.

"I was just so proud to be with him and salute him along the way," Lt. Col. Hall said. "I just couldn't be more proud."

Pfc. Hall had been in the Army nearly two years and trained as a combat medic. Friends and fellow soldiers said he'd talked of making the Army a career and becoming a doctor.

The private spent most of his life in Anchorage, Alaska, but joined the Tennessee Army National Guard in Chattanooga while living with his grandparents, Don and Jan Priddy. His mother lives in Dalton, Ga., and he has extended family in Clarksville, Tenn.

Shortly after finding out about her son's injuries, Robynn Harrison called Pfc. Hall's friends, who passed the news along.



That's how Randy Guintu and Joel McKinney learned of their childhood friend's fate.

Mr. McKinney's eyes filled with tears when he remembered hearing the news. The pair spoke at the funeral, but each already had marked Pfc. Hall's passing in their own way.

"We kind of had our own memorial," Mr. Guintu said. "We went to his neighborhood, we had a pair of his shoes and threw them up on the power lines."

After the church service, police and Patriot Guard motorcycle riders escorted the family to the Chattanooga National Cemetery. Soldiers carried Pfc. Hall's casket and fired the 21-gun salute during the ceremony.

Each family member wept as the Army officer handed them a folded flag, representing Pfc. Hall's sacrifice. Lt. Col. Hall's legs wobbled then straightened as he stood to receive his flag and return a salute.

Earlier that day, the colonel said that, since his son's death, he'd been so busy getting to him before he died, waiting with him in the hospital and escorting him home, he really hadn't had time to reflect on what had happened.

"I know when it's going to hit me, as soon as all of this is over, because then I'll actually have time to sit down and think about it," he said.

#### LOCAL AFGHANISTAN DEATHS

Since the 2001 start of the war in Afghanistan, 1,045 American troops have been killed in the conflict.

Local soldiers killed in the country:

- \* Lance Cpl. Gregory Posey, 22, of Winchester, Tenn., was killed July 30, 2009.
- \* Sgt. Raymundo "Ray" Morales, 34, of Dawnville, Ga., was killed July 21, 2009.
- \* Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Seth Sharp, 20, of Adairsville, Ga., was killed July 2, 2009.
- \* 1st Sgt. John Blair of Calhoun, Ga., was killed June 20, 2009.
- \* Sgt. Jeffery William Jordan, 21, of Cave Spring, Ga., was one of three soldiers from a Georgia National Guard unit killed June 4, 2009.

Source: Newspaper archives, [icasualties.org](http://icasualties.org)

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

# U.S. OCCUPATION RECRUITING DRIVE IN HIGH GEAR; RECRUITING FOR THE ARMED RESISTANCE THAT IS



A foreign occupation soldier from the USA puts his hands on the body of an Afghan citizen without consent during a patrol in Maiwand district of Kandahar province May 1, 2010. REUTERS/Jonathon Burch

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 military prison endlessly 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?]

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## **UNREMITTING HELL ON EARTH; ALL HOME NOW**



U.S. soldiers at the site of a blast in Kandahar April 15, 2010. A car bomb exploded in the center of the southern Afghan city of Kandahar on Thursday. REUTERS/Ahmad Nadeem

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## **AFGHAN RESISTANCE ROUNDUP**

### **Resistance Statement: “American Futile Efforts In The Mirror Of The Afghan History”**

28 April Islamic Emirate Of Afghanistan

Prior to February 1989, when the Red Army pulled out of Afghanistan, the Soviet leaders started gradually drawing down their forces in the far-flung provinces of Afghanistan.

Consequently, Dr. Najib's government evacuated Khust and Kumar provinces completely, posing it as an initiative to defend places of people's concentration.

Meanwhile, Najib's spy agency the Ministry of State Intelligence (WAD in Persian), braggingly announced that they had created disunity among the Mujahideen. They said that they were in contacts with the Mujahideen commanders and as per their strategy, had struck some surreptitious deals with them.

Thus, they were trying to hide their failures and paint their efforts as achievements and as a new strategy.

However, the realities were vice versa -- the regime ultimately collapsed.

America is traversing the same path. They are losing their strong military bases.

Similarly, the Karzai puppet administration, some times, speaks of peace talks and reconciliation; of holding jirga, and some times, falsely claims that negotiation with the opposition is under way.

Even some times, they say the Mujahideen have shown flexibility and readiness to hold talks, quoting some unknown sources. Thus, they want to deceive the public by publishing such reports through media outfits which are on their payroll.

But they are unaware of the fact that the public themselves behold the realities with their own eyes.

The enemy's propaganda campaign in the final analysis will harm the enemy itself.

Moreover, Najib renamed the People Democratic Party as the Homeland Party and began to raise national slogans instead of the communist slogans.

Karzai is now acting the same drama.

But neither the propaganda launched by Khad and the servant media could contribute to Naib's sustainability. His government propaganda could not erode the confidence existing among Mujahideen and the people never accepted Najib as a patriot Afghan merely by renaming his party.

Today people eye Karzai's assertions and crocodile's tears with suspicions.

Najib and his masters formed militias and strengthened them.

Currently, Kabul Puppet Administration is toeing the same line.

They have forgotten that the former Najib's regime collapsed at the hands of the militias which were formed to protect and defend the regime in the first place.

Today the government of Karzai has been weakened and discredited by the warlords who have ensconced themselves in the government high echelon. Any way, the past history repeats itself once again.

All these developments point to the fact that the invading America is standing on the abyss of defeat.

The recent decision by the NATO foreign ministers in Asthonia to withdraw their forces from the provinces of Afghanistan and hand over the security to the Afghan forces, confirm our claim and is a replay of the past history.

This proves that the resistance in Afghanistan has evolved into a popular upheaval and now it is almost impossible to confront it.

**The people's demonstration in Logar, the gate of Kabul where people set fire to the logistical convoy, once again shores up our claim. The foreign and internal forces, including their air force and ground troops were not able to save their logistical convoy and military vehicles from the havoc of the empty handed people.**

Presently, all Mujahideen are united and strong, being led by a wise and sagacious leadership. The people support them. Their leadership possess deep military and political insight. So none of Mujahideen will ever come under the impression of the enemy propaganda.

They know that the enemy is on the verge of defeat and hence is grasping at every straw.

In the light of the above facts, the public of the West should raise to the occasion to harness their arrogant governments and get acquainted with the history of Afghanistan in order to learn a lesson from it and pull out of Afghanistan immediately.

If they do not do that, their fate will be similar to the fate of former Soviet Union.

Similarly, if the Afghans who are now siding with the Puppet Kabul Administration do not cut off their relation with the moribund regime, they will also meet the fate of the former communists.

Neither they will find a haven inside the country nor abroad. They will bear the brunt of a heavy loss in this world and the world to come.

### **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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. 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**

**“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*

## **The Oil Spill At The Bottom Of The Sea**



From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance  
Sent: April 30, 2010  
Subject: The Oil Spill at the Bottom of the Sea

### **The Oil Spill at the Bottom of the Sea**

**The environment is gasping for breath.  
Mankind is gasping for breath.  
The birds are migrating to the moon.  
Hell is going to be coated with oil.  
Drill Baby Drill.  
Sanity is on life support.**

**Mike Hastie  
Vietnam Veteran  
April 30, 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](mailto: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

## **Winning All The Battles But Losing The War, Just Like Hannibal:**

**“When You Win All The Battles  
And Nothing Good Happens, It  
Should Be A Sure Sign That The  
Whole Operation Is Not Working”**

**“We May Pay Any Price And Bear  
Any Burden, But Not Forever And  
Everybody Knows It”**

**“So The Insurgents Hang On, Knowing  
That We Will Eventually Pick Up And  
Leave”**

4-26-10 By Robert O'Connell, History News Network [Excerpts]

Robert O'Connell holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Virginia.

He has had a thirty year career with Army Intelligence.



He was Visiting Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School. His latest book is *The Ghosts of Cannae: Hannibal and the Darkest Hour of the Roman Republic* (Random House, 2010).

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In late 218 B.C.E. Hannibal led an army across one of the highest passes in the Alps and invaded Italy.

Staging the assault from his family's base in Spain, itself an empire-within-an-empire, he had basically dragged the home city and metropolis of Carthage into an entirely problematic war with Rome, one that would have been destined for a quick and disastrous end had it not been for one factor: Hannibal himself.

Almost immediately he gathered his bedraggled, freeze dried near-wreck of an army, and led them to two sharp victories over the Romans, with the latter one at the River Trebia wiping out most of a major consular army. He followed that up the next spring by annihilating another consular army in a giant ambush at Lake Trasimene.

By now he had Rome's full attention.

The hyper-warlike city on the Tiber, destined soon to rule the Mediterranean basin, responded by fielding a crusher of a field force, essentially four consular armies welded together, and invited Hannibal to fight.

With breathtaking guile, Hannibal surrounded the Romans on August 2, 216 B.C.E. on a plain near the abandoned town of Cannae, and then over the course of an afternoon chopped it to bits, killing more men on that day than the United States lost in battle during the entire Vietnam conflict.

Hannibal assumed the authorities on the Tiber would be ready to talk terms and sent a delegation, but Rome was just getting started.

**In the words of Fabius Maximus, the city's shrewdest military leader: "We are carrying on war in Italy, in our own country...Hannibal, on the other hand, is in a foreign and hostile land....Do you doubt that we shall get the better of a man who is growing weaker by the day?"**

So Rome kept fielding armies, drawing on huge manpower reserves, gradually producing better fighters and generals.

**Yet Hannibal, to an amazing degree, kept beating them, never losing a significant battle during his entire time in Italy.**

**Still, as the years piled up he found himself steadily further south, until he occupied just the toe of the Italian boot, leaving finally in 203 B.C.E., soon to preside over Carthage's surrender.**

Thus ended history's most flagrant example of winning all the battles but losing the war – a sort of military oxymoron that often leaves armchair strategists scratching their heads.

But such a phenomenon is more than just a freakish occurrence; it can be the starkest kind of barometer of effectiveness, one those involved ignore at their own risk.

**Consider the fate of the Spanish in their efforts to suppress the rebellious Dutch in the late sixteenth century, sending the best and most experienced army in Europe to the Netherlands to deliver a succession of poundings virtually whenever their hapless adversaries ventured beyond fortifications.**

**Yet the rebellion refused to be stifled.**

**The Dutch even seemed to prosper, while the Spanish found themselves increasingly short of cash, their unpaid troops mutinous, and they gradually lost hold of the situation.**

**The lessons should have been obvious.**

Spain's power was over-extended, its armies were operating in a hostile environment, and military leverage was non-existent.

When you win all the battles and nothing good happens, it should be a sure sign that the whole operation is not working.

Instead, Spain hung tough and went into centuries of decline.

It's also worth remembering that an aroused Rome went on to completely obliterate Carthage, an act of genocide if there ever was one.

**All this would be academic if it were not for the fact that winning all the battles but losing the war seems to keep happening to the United States.**

We find ourselves repeatedly caught in the same trap, trying to operate in environments where our political purchase is minimal, and then compensating militarily (winning all the battles), which only obscures our basic dilemma.

We have a very capable and well-equipped military. Consequently, it tends to perform well even under the most adverse conditions, conditions that would destroy many other armies.

Yet the results frequently range from disappointing to non-existent.

**Our fate in Vietnam was epitomized during negotiations a week before the fall of Saigon, when an American general told his counterpart: "You know you never beat us on the battlefield."**

**"That may be so," the Vietnamese replied, "but it is also irrelevant."**

**The tale has been much the same during our incursions into Iraq and Afghanistan, two very uninviting military environments: first a string of stunning victories; then a stubborn and lethal insurgency.**

But it's also important to remember that these are basically forces designed to fight conventional battles, and those who control them think in these terms. Their basic orientation is massive (more troops, more stuff) and kinetic.

It's already pretty clear that this approach can interfere with the basic political tasks of gaining local trust and promoting security. Collateral damage and civilian casualties have a way of doing that. It's less apparent, but still significant, that we have been able to compensate by employing our military crunch as a kind of substitute for political adroitness.

**Yet this capacity comes with a huge footprint of men and materiel, a price tag that puts an inherent time-limit on this kind of war in a democracy. We may pay any price and bear any burden, but not forever and everybody knows it. So the insurgents hang on, knowing that we will eventually pick up and leave.**

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## **To Vietnam Veterans Against The War:**

**“It Was All Of You Working Together,  
Standing Up Together, And Fighting  
Together That Crippled The Militaries  
Ability To Continue The Fight In  
Vietnam”**



**To All VVAW Members,**

As a young veteran working to end the occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan and in general struggling to change the way this country uses or more miss uses its military I want to congratulate and thank you all.

Today, 35 years ago, the war in Vietnam came to an end.

I know it was all of you working together, standing up together, and fighting together that crippled the militaries ability to continue the fight in Vietnam. So thank you for your struggle.

You have seen and sacrificed much along the way but please know with out you, your strength to survive, to return home, to struggle/fight against the war, and to bring about massive social change the war in Vietnam would have dragged on for much longer.

Costing many more lives and many more minds.

So thank you and please know that you all inspire us to continue fighting.

In Struggle,  
In Peace,  
Aaron Hughes  
Organizing Team Leader  
Iraq Veterans Against the War  
[[www.ivaw.org/](http://www.ivaw.org/)]

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## OCCUPATION PALESTINE



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

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



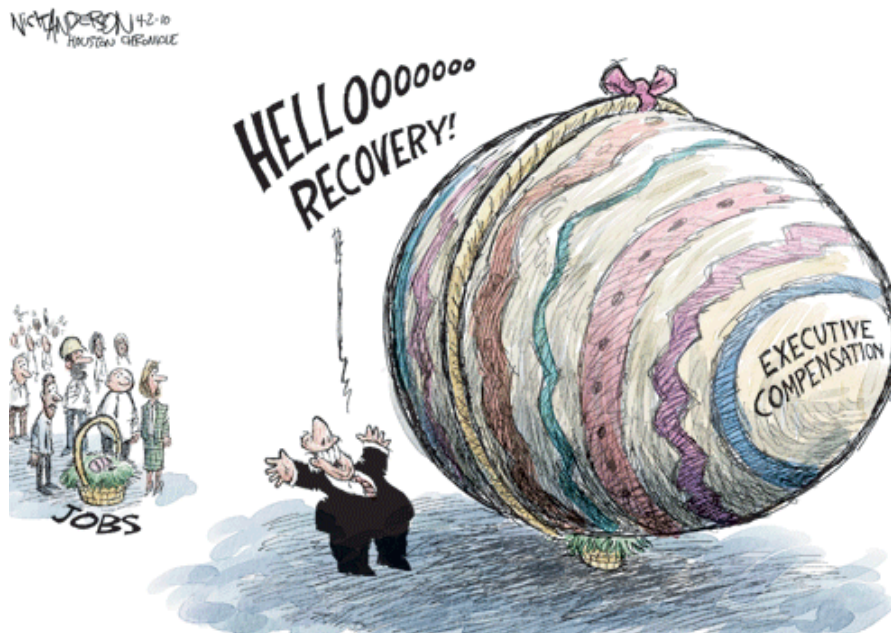
### DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?

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

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# CLASS WAR REPORTS



## **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/](http://www.ivaw.org/))

**“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**

## **Do Not Start With Us: You Will Not Win**



Marchers protest against Arizona's racist police-state immigration law, in Los Angeles, May 1, 2010. Dozens of marches took place across the country. (AP Photo/Jason Redmond)

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**Greek Workers Declare Class War:  
“They Want To Return Us To The  
19th Century - This Is Not Going To  
Be A Battle But A War”  
“People Know That There Is No Other  
Way Than To Come Down Into The  
Streets”**

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance, who sent this in.]

1 May 2010 BBC

**Greek riot police have used tear gas to disperse angry protesters in Athens, during a march against government cuts to tackle the country's crippling debt.**

**Clashes erupted at the finance ministry and a state TV truck was petrol bombed. A tense stand-off continues, with protesters hurling bottles and rocks.**

**Thousands of Greeks are taking part in May Day rallies called by trade unions and left-wing parties.**

The EU is demanding the austerity cuts in exchange for a huge bail-out deal.

Angry protesters marched through Athens shouting: "Hands off our rights! IMF and EU Commission out!"

Ericos Finalis, who was taking part in the march, described the planned government cutbacks as "the biggest attack on workers for centuries".

"They want to return us to the 19th Century - this is not going to be a battle but a war that will last for months or even years," he was quoted by AFP as saying.

Another protester, Marina Yotis, told AFP: "Nobody knows what really is going to happen but people know that there is no other way than to come down into the streets and protest."

During the protests, a prominent hotel was vandalised in the central Syntagma square.

There were reports of similar scenes in the northern city of Thessaloniki as youths attacked banks and business premises with iron bars.

There is huge public resistance to the wage cuts, tax rises and pension reductions that are expected to be implemented.

**Our correspondent says the unions hope that the rallies will demonstrate to the government, the eurozone, the IMF and the international markets, that they can mobilise enough "troops" to defeat the new austerity programme.**

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**18,000 "Accepted The Invitation Posted Last Month On Facebook"  
Public High School Students Go On Strike "In One Of The Largest Grass-**



# Roots Demonstrations To Hit New Jersey In Years”

## “It Feels Like He Is Taking Money From Us, And We’re Already Poor”



In Newark, thousands of students from various high schools converged on City Hall.  
Ruth Fremson/The New York Times

April 27, 2010 By WINNIE HU, The New York Times [Excerpts]

It was a silent call to arms: an easy-to-overlook message urging New Jersey students to take a stand against the budget cuts that threaten class sizes and choices as well as after-school activities.

But some 18,000 students accepted the invitation posted last month on Facebook, the social media site better known for publicizing parties and sporting events.

And on Tuesday many of them — and many others — walked out of class in one of the largest grass-roots demonstrations to hit New Jersey in years.

The protest disrupted classroom routines and standardized testing in some of the state’s biggest and best-known school districts, offering a real-life civics lesson that unfolded on lawns, sidewalks, parking lots and football fields.

The mass walkouts were inspired by Michelle Ryan Lauto, an 18-year-old aspiring actress and a college freshman, and came a week after voters rejected 58 percent of school district budgets put to a vote across the state (not all districts have a direct budget vote).

“All I did was make a Facebook page,” said Ms. Lauto, who graduated last year from Northern Valley Regional High School in Old Tappan, N.J.

“Anyone who has an opinion could do that and have their opinion heard. I would love to see kids in high school step up and start their own protests and change things in their own way.”

At Columbia High School in Maplewood, that looked like 200 students marching around the building waving signs reading “We are the future” and “We love our teachers.”

In West Orange, a district that is considering laying off 84 employees, reducing busing, cutting back on music and art, and dropping sports teams, it was high school students rallying in the football stands.

At Montclair High School, it meant nearly half of the 1,900 students gathered outside the school in the morning, with some chanting, “No more budget cuts.”

In the largest showing, thousands of high school students in Newark marched past honking cars stuck in midday traffic to fill the steps of City Hall under the watchful gaze of dozens of police officers.

**With their protests, the students sought to send a message to Gov. Christopher J. Christie, a Republican whose reductions in state aid to education had led many districts to cut staff and programs and to ask for larger-than-usual property tax increases.**

Mr. Christie, who has taken on the state’s largest teachers’ union in his efforts to close an \$11 billion deficit, has proposed reducing direct aid to nearly 600 districts by an amount equal to up to 5 percent of each district’s operating budget.

**“It feels like he is taking money from us, and we’re already poor,” said Johanna Pagan, 16, a sophomore at West Side High School in Newark, who feared her school would lose teachers and extracurricular programs because of the governor’s cuts.**

“The schools here have bad reputations, and we need aid and we need programs to develop.”

Michael Drewniak, the governor’s press secretary, released a statement on Tuesday saying that students belonged in the classroom. “It is also our firm hope that the students were motivated by youthful rebellion or spring fever,” Mr. Drewniak said, “and not by encouragement from any one-sided view of the current budget crisis in New Jersey.”

Bret D. Schundler, the education commissioner, also urged schools to enforce attendance policies and not let students walk out of class.

Not every school had students walk out. Nancy Dries, a spokeswoman for the top-ranked Millburn district, which has used surplus money to avoid major cuts, said it was “business as usual” there.

**But in many other places, students came to school ready to make a political statement. Emma Wolin, a junior at Columbia High, walked out of second-period Spanish with several classmates, even though the school had warned that they would face detention.**

**“It’s the activities and school spirit that make Columbia a great school, and I want to keep it that way,” she said.**

Judy Levy, a spokeswoman for the South Orange and Maplewood district, said that teachers did mark protesting students absent, and that some students went back and forth between the walkout and their classes, while others chose not to participate because their classes were reviewing for Advanced Placement exams that begin on Monday.

Ms. Lauto, whose message inspired the walkouts, said in an interview that she was amazed and gratified that so many students had responded.

She said the state education cuts had really hit home because her mother and sister both work in public schools in Hudson County.

Ms. Lauto, enrolled at Pace University, said she has always had an activist streak. In seventh grade, she tried — but failed — to organize a protest over a new dress code, and after President George W. Bush was re-elected in 2004, she wrote “Going to Canada, Be Back in 4 Years” on a T-shirt and wore it to class.

But until now, Ms. Lauto said, she has used Facebook only to keep in touch with friends and let them know when she is performing in shows. She alerted those 600 Facebook friends to her message calling for a student walkout and asked them to pass it on.

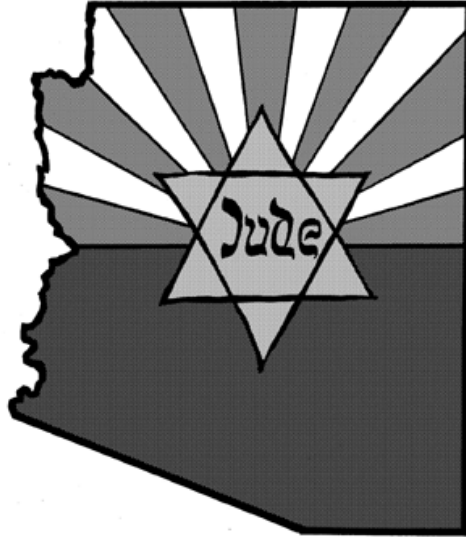
Within a week, Ms. Lauto received hundreds of responses, not all of them positive. In fact, so many students insulted her and said the walkout was a stupid idea that she disabled the message function on her Facebook page. On Tuesday, Ms. Lauto joined students who walked out of High Tech High School in Bergen County. She said she was not planning any more protests, but hoped that students learned that their voices could be heard.

“I made this page with the best of intentions,” she said. “The fact that it has become so wildly successful — I’m so overwhelmed.”

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

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

# **“No One Will Be Deported Today” “24 People Formed Two Rows And Forced The Van To Stop”**



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April 30, 2010 By Mario Cardenas, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

With economic hard times hitting everyone but Wall Street and wars abroad in full throttle, American tax-paying citizens are being pressured to scapegoat tax-paying undocumented immigrants for the rising unemployment and lack of social services.

Or are they?

The answer rang loud and clear on the morning of April 27, following an all-night vigil outside the Broadview Federal Detention Center, located 20 minutes west of Chicago.

In an act of solidarity with Arizona residents and the detainees shackled inside the detention center,

24 members of the clergy, labor and community leaders, and immigrant rights activists blocked Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) vans filled with deportees headed to Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

They were accompanied by about 150 protesters chanting in solidarity. The action was organized by advocates for undocumented immigrants, including the Immigrant Youth Justice League (IYJL), Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), Service Employees International Union, Latino Organization of the Southwest and the Justice Mission.

The Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America has regularly organized vigils at the Broadview detention center, and has sought support for an action like the one that happened Tuesday.

The ingredients to building this action were simple: discussion, organization, struggle and solidarity.

It wasn't until 6 a.m. that the processed detainees were loaded into vans that were parked inside the compound. The gates opened as people chanted "Shame on you ICE!" and the van came out in reverse, heading toward the north end of the block.

At that moment, 24 people formed two rows and forced the van to stop.

After a 15-minute standoff, the van was forced to return to the detention center, and the crowd exploded in chants of "No deportations today!"

The street was blocked for about one hour and a half before the police arrested the demonstrators--just enough time to stop the deportations that day.

Miguel Gutierrez, one of the participants in the civil disobedience, raised his fist in the air as he was led away by the police. "At that moment, I turned and saw a bunch of people also raising their fists," he said.

"We did it, we stopped the deportations that day because we came together, this is people power and it's beautiful and empowering for everyone."

When people come together, they can do amazing things. This movement will need to make more amazing things happen if equal civil rights are to be won for everyone, which means that masses of people will have to come together and act as one.



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

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[news@uruknet.info](mailto:news@uruknet.info); [http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/)

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