

Military Resistance 8F3



Metal Memorials

May 31, 2010 By Alex, Army Of Dude

"Hey man, just so you know, I'm going to set this thing off."

I don't have a metal plate in my head or shrapnel in my legs, but I carry with me something that might as well be lodged deep under my skin.

After Vietnam, soldiers and civilians alike would wear bracelets etched with the names of prisoners of war so their memory would live on even if they never came home.

Veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan continued the practice, but with a twist. The same bracelets are adorned with the names of friends killed in action. The date and the place are also included as a testament to where they took their last steps.

One of the first things my platoon did after coming home was order memorial bracelets from the few websites that specialize in military memorabilia. You don't even have to type in the name or the date; their system uses the DOD casualty list. All you have to do is filter by name and a software aided laser will burn the selection onto an aluminum or steel bracelet. What emerges out of this casual and disinterested practice is jewelry teeming with the amount of love and commitment found in ten wedding rings.

Every trip to the airport has the same outcome: additional security checks and a pat down from a TSA agent.

I tell them it's the bracelet that the metal detector shrieks at.

"Can you take it off?" is always the question.

"I don't want to take it off" is always the answer.

To some screeners my answer is a poke in the eye of their authority, a wrench in the system of their daily routine.

Others recognize the bracelet and give me a gentle nod and a quick pat down. I suspect they have encountered other veterans like me and realize the futility of asking to have it removed.

In a glass booth at the security gate is where I most often get the question, "Who's on the bracelet?" Those who realize the significance of it usually want to know the name. I stare down and rub my fingers over the lettering. "Brian Chevalier, but we called him Chevy."

At times the memorial bracelets seem almost redundant. The names of the fallen are written on steel and skin, but are they not also carved into the hearts of men? Are the faces of the valiant not emblazoned in the memories of those who called them brothers?

No amount of ink or steel can be used to represent what those days signify.

My bracelet says "14 March 2007," but it does not describe the blazing heat that day, or the smell of open sewers trampled underfoot or the sight of a Stryker, overturned and smoke-filled as the school adjacent exploded under tremendous fire.

It was as if God chose to end the world within one city block.

When Chevy was lovingly placed into a body bag under exploding RPGs and machine gun tracers, worlds ended. Others began.

The concept of Memorial Day nearly approaches superfluous ritual to some veterans.

It's absurd to ask a combat veteran to take out a single day to remember those fell in battle, as if the other 364 days were not marked by their memories in one way or another.

I try to look at pictures of my friends, both alive and dead, at least once a day to remember their smiles or the way they wore their kits.

I talk to them online and send emails and texts and on rare occasions, visit them in person.

We drink and laugh and recall the old days and tell the same war stories everyone has heard a thousand times but still manage to produce streams of furious laughter.

I get the same feeling with them; Memorial Day does not begin or end on a single day. It ebbs and flows in torrents of memory, sometimes to a crippling degree.

Most of us have become talented at hiding our service and safeguard the moments when we become awash in memories like March 14. The bracelet is the only physical reminder of the tide we find ourselves in.

Perhaps it's best to let civilians hold onto Memorial Day and hope they use the time to reflect wisely.

A time to remember old friends or distant relatives that they did not necessarily serve with but still honor their sacrifice.

Not just soldiers are touched by war.

Chevy was a father and a son, and his loss not only rippled through the platoon and company but a small town in Georgia.

The day serves as a reminder that there are men and women who have only come back as memories.

Maybe the reflection on those who did not return is a key to helping civilians bridge the gap with veterans.

Occasionally my bracelet spurs conversations with friends and coworkers who did not know I was in the Army or deployed to Iraq.

I still don't feel completely comfortable answering their questions but I'm always happy to talk about the name on my wrist. His name was Brian Chevalier, but we called him Chevy.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Embassy In Baghdad Found Reeking Of Theft And Corruption: Millions Of \$ Worth Of Narcotic Drugs & Cars Missing

June 3, 2010 By Laura Strickler, Josh Scheinblum, CBS

Government auditors found 159 missing vehicles, 2,236 unused cell phones and 563 DVD players collecting dust at the U.S. embassy in Baghdad.

A new report by the State Department Inspector General found more than \$23 million dollars was spent on supplies that were either wasted or used ineffectively.

Auditors found shoddy record keeping at the embassy's pharmacy and noted 7,196 missing items including controlled substances such as morphine and oxycodone.

The report also notes 159 "unaccounted for" vehicles valued at \$18.5 million.

An additional 282 vehicles, valued at \$40.4 million, are not tracked in the embassy's motor vehicle database.

Auditors were also concerned about the purchase of items deemed "expendable" such as household furniture, medical and security equipment and pharmaceuticals. They also identified excess property such as 364 beds, 346 box springs and 631 televisions, valued at over \$2.3 million dollars.

Over 2,200 cell phones at the embassy were either unassigned or unused, costing taxpayers \$268,000 dollars in charges each year, according to the IG report. The cell phone provider, Asiacell Communication LLC, charges the embassy \$10 per month per line, whether or not the phone is ever used.

The U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, the largest in the world, employs over 1,700 individuals, spanning over 16 different government agencies and private companies, and has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion dollars.

“Our Sons Are Gone Because Of Them” [Don't Let The Door Hit Your Ass On The Way Out]

June 4, 2010 By Leila Fadel, Washington Post Foreign Service [Excerpts]

FALLUJAH, IRAQ -- The remnants of the U.S. occupation of Iraq are being sold to the highest bidders in yard sales across the country.

Just outside Fallujah, Iraqi merchants Mohammed Issawi and Abu Saif sat recently on plastic chairs in the blistering sun. Broken generators, trailers, dumpsters and air conditioners graced the dirt lot behind them. Some of the items were emblazoned with the red, white and blue flag of the United States.

After all that the U.S. occupation has taken from Iraq, Issawi said, Iraqis deserve to get something back -- even if it's just a low price on a laptop.

“These are our things,” he said. “They took these things from us, and now we are selling them back. They occupied our country by force.”

Rukaya Abdul Aziz, 32, recently held her youngest child inside her new home. Her past two houses were destroyed in U.S. attacks, she said.

Two of her cousins and her brother-in-law were killed in the war, and she eagerly awaits the final departure of U.S. forces.

“We hope they leave today, not tomorrow,” she said.

“Our sons are gone because of them.”

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Two Soldiers From 1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment Killed In Nahr-E Saraj

5 Jun 10 Ministry of Defence

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm the deaths of two soldiers from 1st Battalion The Mercian Regiment serving as part of Combined Force Nahr-e Saraj (South), yesterday afternoon, Friday 4 June 2010.

The soldiers were killed in a small arms fire engagement with insurgent forces in the Nahr-e Saraj District of Helmand Province.

Foreign Troops Wounded By Rocket Attack At Kandahar Airfield; Number And Nationality Kept Secret By Occupation Command

Jun 4 2010 The Canadian Press

KANDAHAR, AFGHANISTAN—A number of military personnel have been injured in a rocket attack at Kandahar Airfield.

In a statement, the International Security Assistance Force [translation: occupation force] said a “small number” of military personnel were wounded after a rocket was fired at the base Thursday night.

It is against ISAF's policy to report on the nationalities and number of those injured in rocket attacks.

**With U.S. Government Help, A Drug Dealing Piece Of Shit Does Business With The Taliban And Builds An Afghan Empire:
“American Commanders Appear To Have Set Aside Reports That He Connives With Both Drug Smugglers And Taliban Insurgents”
“An American Military Officer In Kabul Admitted That Mr. Matiullah Was Believed To Have A Relationship With Insurgents”**



In Mr. Matiullah's case, he said, that would mean attacking people who refused to use his security service or enlisting the Taliban to do it. Local Afghans said that Mr. Matiullah had done both of those things, although they would not speak publicly for fear of retribution.

June 5, 2010 By DEXTER FILKINS, New York Times [Excerpts]

TIRIN KOT, Afghanistan — The most powerful man in this arid stretch of southern Afghanistan is not the provincial governor, nor the police chief, nor even the commander of the Afghan Army.

It is Matiullah Khan, the head of a private army that earns millions of dollars guarding NATO supply convoys and fights Taliban insurgents alongside American Special Forces.

In little more than two years, Mr. Matiullah, an illiterate former highway patrol commander, has grown stronger than the government of Oruzgan Province, not only supplanting its role in providing security but usurping its other functions, his rivals say, like appointing public employees and doling out government largess. His fighters run missions with American Special Forces officers, and when Afghan officials have confronted him, he has either rebuffed them or had them removed.

In Mr. Matiullah's case, American commanders appear to have set aside reports that he connives with both drug smugglers and Taliban insurgents.

Mr. Matiullah does not look like one of the aging, pot-bellied warlords from Afghanistan's bygone wars. Long and thin, he wears black silk turbans and extends a pinky when he gestures to make a point. Mr. Matiullah's army is an unusual hybrid, too: a booming private business and a government-subsidized militia.

His main effort — and his biggest money maker — is securing the chaotic highway linking Kandahar to Tirin Kot for NATO convoys. One day each week, Mr. Matiullah declares the 100-mile highway open and deploys his gunmen up and down it. The highway cuts through an area thick with Taliban insurgents.

His company charges each NATO cargo truck \$1,200 for safe passage, or \$800 for smaller ones, his aides say. His income, according to one of his aides, is \$2.5 million a month, an astronomical sum in a country as impoverished as this one.

The Afghan government even picks up a good chunk of Mr. Matiullah's expenses. Under an arrangement with the Ministry of the Interior, the government pays for roughly 600 of Mr. Matiullah's 1,500 fighters, including Mr. Matiullah himself, despite the fact that the force is not under the government's control.

"The government tried to shut him down, and when they couldn't, they agreed to pay for his men," said Martine van Bijlert, a co-director of the Afghanistan Analysts Network, an independent organization here. NATO commanders say they reluctantly pay Mr. Matiullah (and others like him) for his services because they have no other way of moving their convoys across dangerous territory.

Mr. Matiullah's compound sits about 100 yards from the American Special Forces compound in Tirin Kot.

A Special Forces officer, willing to speak about Mr. Matiullah only on the condition of anonymity, said his unit had an extensive relationship with Mr. Matiullah.

With his NATO millions, and the American backing, Mr. Matiullah has grown into the strongest political and economic force in the region.

"What law says that a police officer can have a private security company?" said Juma Gul Hemat, the Oruzgan police chief, whose office is a few hundred yards from Mr. Matiullah's.

"Many times I have confronted Matiullah over his illegal business," Chief Hemat said. "But as long as the Americans are behind him, there is nothing I can do. They are the ones with the money."

Both General Carter [Maj. Gen. Nick Carter, commander of NATO forces in southern Afghanistan] and Hanif Atmar, the Afghan interior minister, said they hoped to disband Mr. Matiullah's militia soon — or at least to bring it under formal government control. Mr. Matiullah's operation, the officials said, is one of at least 23 private security companies working in the area without any government license or oversight.

General Carter said that while he had no direct proof in Mr. Matiullah's case, he harbored more general worries that the legions of unregulated Afghan security companies had a financial interest in prolonging chaos.

In Mr. Matiullah's case, he said, that would mean attacking people who refused to use his security service or enlisting the Taliban to do it. Local Afghans said that Mr. Matiullah had done both of those things, although they would not speak publicly for fear of retribution.

Mr. Matiullah is causing other problems, Mr. Atmar said, alienating members of Afghan tribes not his own.

He has also begun charging Afghans to ride on the highway.

An American intelligence report prepared for senior American commanders last spring listed a number of associates of Ahmed Wali Karzai, President Hamid Karzai's brother and the chairman of the provincial council of Kandahar Province, who were suspected of involvement in the country's opium trade.

The report listed Mr. Matiullah as one of the suspects, but provided few details.

A former senior official in the Kandahar government, who spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of retribution by Mr. Matiullah and the Karzais, said he believed that Mr. Matiullah was facilitating the movement of drugs along the highway to Kandahar.

"I was never able to look inside those trucks, but if I had, I am fairly certain what I would have found," he said.

Despite his relationship to the Special Forces, Mr. Matiullah has been suspected of playing a double game with the Taliban.

Asked about Mr. Matiullah earlier this year, an American military officer in Kabul admitted that Mr. Matiullah was believed to have a relationship with insurgents.

Asked again recently, the same officer said that Mr. Matiullah was suspected of drug smuggling. He provided no details.

The next day, after consulting intelligence officers, the officer said Mr. Matiullah was a trusted ally. "Their assessment about him has changed," he said.

Like many Afghan leaders close to the Americans, Mr. Matiullah got his start after the fall of the Taliban in 2001, when the Americans were in desperate need of allies.

Within a few years, Mr. Matiullah was the head of the Highway Police in Oruzgan Province.

In 2006, out of concern that legions of officers were working with drug traffickers, the entire agency was abolished.

"The highway police was one huge drug smuggling operation," said a former Western diplomat, who was based here at the time of President Karzai's order.

Mr. Matiullah's army is part of a constellation of militias and security companies, many of them unregistered and unregulated, that claim at least some loyalty to Ahmed Wali Karzai, who is widely acknowledged to be the most powerful man in southern Afghanistan.

"Ahmed Wali is my friend, my close friend!" Mr. Matiullah said earlier this year, offering to put him on the telephone for this reporter.

In a second, more recent, interview, Mr. Matiullah said he and Mr. Karzai had no relationship at all.

Both Ahmed Wali Karzai and Mr. Matiullah are associates of Jan Mohammed Khan, a former governor of Oruzgan Province and Mr. Matiullah's father-in-law.

Mr. Khan was removed from Oruzgan Province at the insistence of the Dutch in 2006 because of concerns that he was close to the drug trade. He is now an adviser to President Karzai.

Those relationships, Mr. Matiullah's detractors say, allow him to flourish.

"Matiullah is not part of the government, he is stronger than the government, and he can do anything he wants," said Mr. Essa, the tribal elder in Tirin Kot. "He is like the younger brother of Ahmed Wali. He is protected in Kabul."

**NO MISSION;
POINTLESS WAR:
ALL HOME NOW**



A U.S. soldier with 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, part of the 82nd Airborne Division, in a swamp by the Arghandab river in Kandahar province, southern Afghanistan, May 11, 2010. REUTERS/Yannis Behrakis



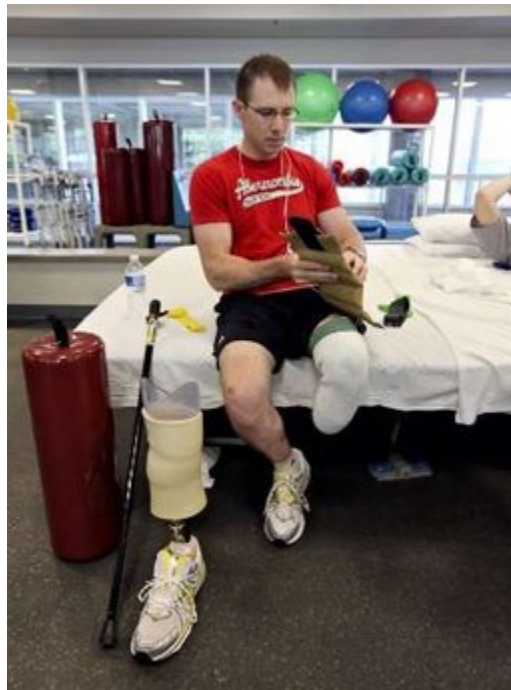
U.S. soldiers with the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, part of the 82nd Airborne Division, patrol in a village in Arghandab valley, May 12, 2010. REUTERS/Yannis Behrakis



United States soldiers with 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment of the 5th Stryker Brigade at their outpost May 21, 2010, in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

TROOP NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



A U.S. soldier prepares a strap-on weight to exercise his leg during physical therapy at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington June 4, 2010. He was in Afghanistan riding in a heavily armored MRAP vehicle during the IED explosion that claimed his left leg. REUTERS/J. Scott Applewhite/Pool

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.”

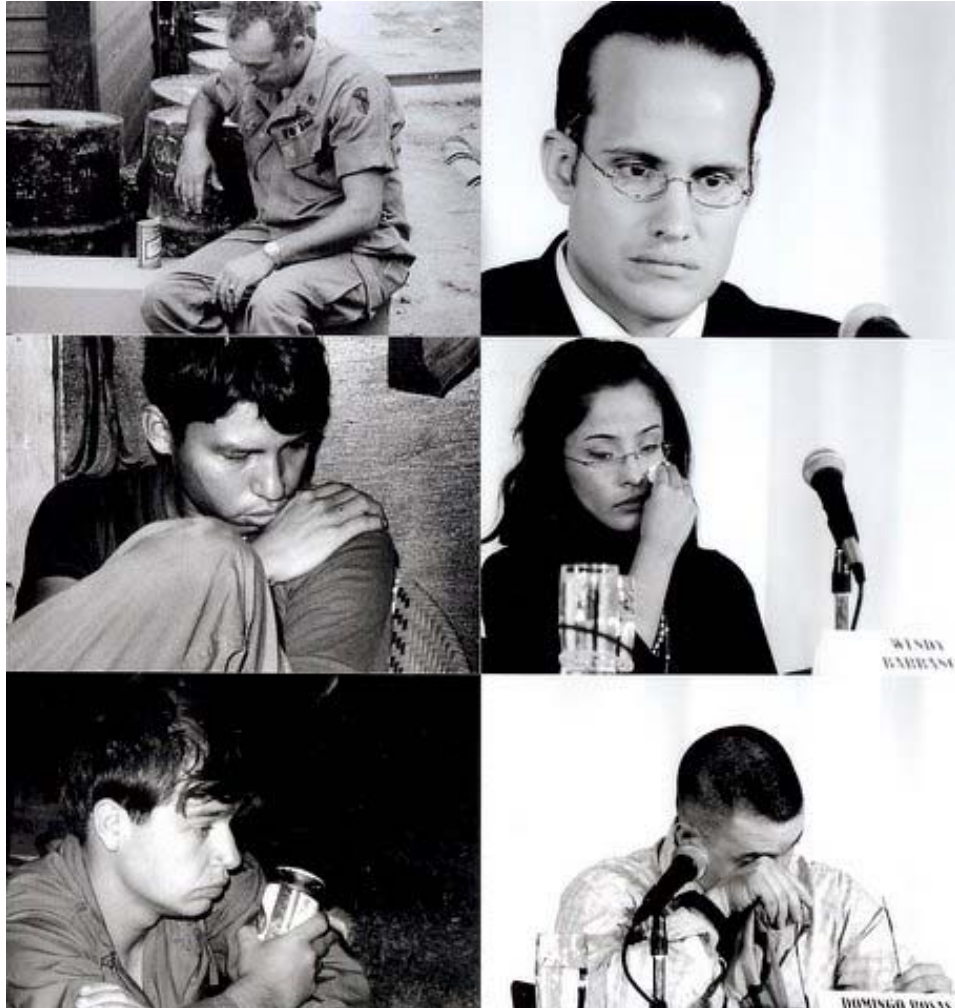
Frederick Douglass, 1852

**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**

When Soldiers Past Are Lied To, Future Soldiers Eventually See The Truth



All photographs taken by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: June 03, 2010
Subject: When Soldiers Past are Lied to, Future Soldiers Eventually See the Truth

When Soldiers Past are Lied to, Future Soldiers Eventually See the Truth

**All three pictures on the left were taken of Army medics who were in my unit in Vietnam.
All three were dedicated soldiers when they first arrived in Vietnam.**

When they left Vietnam, they were totally disillusioned with America's dog and pony show. Every single aspect of the Vietnam War was a lie. The French brutalized the Vietnamese people, and when France was defeated, the U.S. simply moved in to take their place. Brutality replaced brutality. The cause of freedom and democracy was the greatest masquerade for colonial murder. It was all bull shit billy. When the rich and the upper class don't go to war, it's all about corporate greed.

The three pictures on the right were taken of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans testifying at The Winter Soldier II Investigation in Silver Spring, Maryland in March 2008. They were bearing witness to U.S. war crimes and human rights abuses in those countries by American soldiers. Their individual testimonies were emotionally gripping. I was mentally exhausted after four days of testimony.

When I left Vietnam in September 1971, American soldiers in my unit were shooting heroin, they were shooting each other, and they were shooting themselves. Most people in my unit knew the Vietnam War was a waste land of lies. Fast forward 40 years, and the Iraq and Afghanistan soldiers and veterans are starting to come out of their patriotic coma. It's the same coma I came out of when I came back from Vietnam. The past repeats itself simply because the past was a repetitious lie to begin with. So, how do you tell an entire generation that the war was a lie? You don't. Our government never will. What happens is quite simple. American soldiers and veterans self-destruct. (Just like we did after coming back from Vietnam. I use the words, "coming back," instead of "coming home," on purpose.) And while all of this is going on, the public, who was never personally invested in the war in the first place, moves on to the next distraction. There are thousands of these distractions. The public is never part of the healing process for

their warriors, because they can't deal with the truth.
Lying is the Most Powerful Weapon in War.
36 Iraq and Afghanistan soldiers have
committed suicide at Fort Carson, Colorado
since the Middle East War began.
The vast majority of Americans do not know this.
The vast majority of Americans are comfortably numb.
The vast majority of Americans do not know their
country is dying.
That's what happens when you hide everything.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
June 2, 2010

“A nation that year after year spends more money
on national defense than it does on programs of
social uplift is facing spiritual death.”
Martin Luther King Jr.
April 4, 1967

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

**“I Have A Neighbor Who Insists On
Working On The Sabbath”
“Am I Morally Obligated To Kill Him
Myself, Or Should I Ask The Police To Do
It?”**

[Thanks to Ward Reilly, Veterans For Peace, for passing this one along.]

Thank you for doing so much to educate people regarding God's Law. I have learned a great deal from you and understand why you would be for banning same sex marriage.

As you said "in the eyes of God marriage is based between a man a woman." I try to share that knowledge with as many people as I can.

When someone tries to defend the homosexual lifestyle, for example, I simply remind them that Leviticus 18:22 clearly states it to be an abomination... End of debate.

I do need some advice from you, however, regarding some other elements of God's Laws and how to follow them.

1. Leviticus 25:44 states that I may possess slaves, both male and female, provided they are purchased from neighboring nations. A friend of mine claims that this applies to Mexicans, but not Canadians. Can you clarify?

Why can't I own Canadians?

2. I would like to sell my daughter into slavery, as sanctioned in Exodus 21:7. In this day and age, what do you think would be a fair price for her?

3. I know that I am allowed no contact with a woman while she is in her period of menstrual uncleanness - Lev.15: 19-24. The problem is how do I tell? I have tried asking, but most women take offense.

4. When I burn a bull on the altar as a sacrifice, I know it creates a pleasing odor for the Lord - Lev.1:9. The problem is, my neighbors. They claim the odor is not pleasing to them. Should I smite them?

5. I have a neighbor who insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2. clearly states he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or should I ask the police to do it?

6. A friend of mine feels that even though eating shellfish is an abomination - Lev. 11:10, it is a lesser abomination than homosexuality. I don't agree. Can you settle this? Are there 'degrees' of abomination?

7. Lev.21:20 states that I may not approach the altar of God if I have a defect in my sight. I have to admit that I wear reading glasses. Does my vision have to be 20/20, or is there some wiggle-room here?

8. Most of my male friends get their hair trimmed, including the hair around their temples, even though this is expressly forbidden by Lev.19:27. How should they die?

9. I know from Lev. 11:6-8 that touching the skin of a dead pig makes me unclean, but may I still play football if I wear gloves?

10. My uncle has a farm. He violates Lev.19:19 by planting two different crops in the same field, as does his wife by wearing garments made of two different kinds of thread (cotton/polyester blend). He also tends to curse and blaspheme a lot.

Is it really necessary that we go to all the trouble of getting the whole town together to stone them? Lev.24:10-16. Couldn't we just burn them to death at a private family affair, like we do with people who sleep with their in-laws? (Lev. 20:14)

11. And one of my real concerns is that gay lobsterman who wears clothes made of two or more fabrics and hauls lobsters on the Sabbath....Four abominations in one day....Wow.....

I know you have studied these things extensively and thus enjoy considerable expertise in such matters, so I am confident you can help.

Thank you again for reminding us that God's word is eternal and unchanging.

Bible Readers of America

OCCUPATION PALESTINE



**“Nine Turkish Men On Board The Mavi Marmara Were Shot A Total Of 30 Times And Five Were Killed By Gunshot Wounds To The Head”
“Five Of The Victims Were Shot Either In The Back Of The Head Or In The Back”**



18 inches: Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

4 June 2010 By Robert Booth, Guardian News and Media Limited [Excerpts]

Israel was tonight under pressure to allow an independent inquiry into its assault on the Gaza aid flotilla after autopsy results on the bodies of those killed, obtained by the Guardian, revealed they were peppered with 9mm bullets, many fired at close range.

Nine Turkish men on board the Mavi Marmara were shot a total of 30 times and five were killed by gunshot wounds to the head, according to the vice-chairman of the Turkish council of forensic medicine, which carried out the autopsies for the Turkish ministry of justice today.

The results revealed that a 60-year-old man, Ibrahim Bilgen, was shot four times in the temple, chest, hip and back.

A 19-year-old, named as Fulkan Dogan, who also has US citizenship, was shot five times from less than 45cm [18 inches], in the face, in the back of the head, twice in the leg and once in the back.

Two other men were shot four times, and five of the victims were shot either in the back of the head or in the back, said Yalcin Buyuk, vice-chairman of the council of forensic medicine.

The new information about the manner and intensity of the killings undermines Israel's insistence that its soldiers opened fire only in self defence and in response to attacks by the activists.

"Given the very disturbing evidence which contradicts the line from the Israeli media and suggests that Israelis have been very selective in the way they have addressed this, there is now an overwhelming need for an international inquiry," said Andrew Slaughter MP, a member of the all party group on Britain and Palestine.

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

Putting Names To Faces

03 June 2010 Lawrenceofcyberia.blogs.com [Excerpts]

A brief introduction to the nine people shot dead on 31 May 2010, by Israeli soldiers who attacked the Turkish vessel M.V. Mavi Marmara, as it attempted to transport humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip.



1. Ibrahim Bilgen, 61, an electrical engineer from Siirt. Member of the Chamber of Electrical Engineers of Turkey. Ran as a Saadet (Felicity) Party candidate in the Turkish general election of 2007 and the Siirt mayoral election of 2009. Married with 6 children.



2. Ali Haydar Bengi, 39, ran a telephone repair shop in Diyarbakir.

Graduate of Al-Azhar University, Cairo (Department of Arabic Literature).

Married to Saniye Bengi; four children - Mehunur (15), Semanur (10) and twins Mohammed and Senanur (5, pictured above).



3. Cevdet Kiliçlar, 38, from Kayseri.

A graduate of Marmara University's Faculty of Communications; formerly a newspaper journalist for the National Gazette and the Anatolia Times. For the past year he was a reporter and webmaster for the Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH).

Married to Derya Kiliçlar; one daughter, Gülhan, and one son, Erdem.



4. Çetin Topçuoğlu, 54, from Adana. Former amateur soccer player and taekwondo champion, who coached Turkey's national taekwondo team. Married to with one son, AYTEK. His wife, Çigdem Topçuoğlu (above, right), was also aboard the Mavi Marmara, but survived.



5. Necdet Yıldırım, 32, an IHH aid worker from Malatya. Married to Refika Yıldırım; one daughter, Melek, aged three.



6. Fahri Yıldız, 43, a firefighter who worked for the Municipality of Adiyaman. Married with four sons.



7. Cengiz Songür, 47, from Izmir. Married to Nurcan Songür; six daughters and one son.



8. Cengiz Akyüz, 41, from Iskenderun. Married to Nimet Akyüz ; three children - Furkan (14), Beyza (12) and Erva Kardelen (nine).



9. Furkan Dogan, 19, in his senior year at Kayseri High School where he was awaiting the results of his university entrance exams; hoped to become a doctor.

Loved chess.

Son of Dr. Ahmet Dogan, Assoc Prof at Erciyes University. A Turkish-American dual national, with two siblings.

[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."]

THIS IS WHAT SOLIDARITY LOOKS LIKE



Jewish men hold a Palestinian flag, altered to include a Turkish flag, during rally against Israel's murder of civilian activists bringing non-military supplies to Gaza, Palestine. Istanbul, Turkey, June 5, 2010. (AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda)

NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization.

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/)

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 Afghanistan, 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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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

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

CLASS WAR REPORTS

Welcome To The Occupied USA: Four SWAT Cars Sent To Arrest “Elder” New Orleans Activist On Faked Charges:

**“They Arrested Her Because She Dared
To Tell That Truth And Demand That
Public Housing Residents Of New
Orleans Have The Right To Return To
Their Homes”**



Comment: T

This “elder” lady has more guts and fire than about 99% of the pathetic excuses for a left limping around whining about how awful things are. See for yourself what a hero warrior for justice looks and sounds like as she leaves jail:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltCvKlmwGxQ>

She speaks at 0:45 into the video.

June 3, 2010 by Communitiesrising [Excerpts]

Sharon Jasper, member of [New Orleans] Survivors Village and MayDay was arrested by the New Orleans police, who brought four SWAT cars to apprehend this elder Black woman from her home.

Ms. Sharon is being charged with battery of a rental agent during an action organized by Survivors Village and MayDay New Orleans. On Friday, May 28th, a group entered the Columbia Parc rental office and held a sit-in demanding the right of former St. Bernard Housing Project residents to return to their homes.

Police say Ms. Sharon assaulted a Columbia Parc rental agent during her entrance into the building.

The rental agent did not complain about an assault and continued to work in the office the entire time of the occupation, including when police arrived. While there, police made no mention of an assault when explaining to the group why they should end their protest.

The truth is that the City of New Orleans did not arrest Sharon Jasper for assault; they arrested her because she dared to tell that truth and demand that public housing residents of New Orleans have the right to return to their homes.

The arrest represents a clear effort by the City of New Orleans to represent the interests of the developers of the Columbia Parc while actively working against the former residents of New Orleans.

We condemn this politically motivated use of the public police in order to protect private developers from protests.

The Columbia Parc development replaced the St. Bernard Housing Project after the City of New Orleans voted to demolish the 1,500 units of public housing and replace them with market housing. The action was part of the Right to Return Weekend in New Orleans as part of the Take Back the Land Movement May 2010 Month of Action

Survivors Village will be protesting in front of Columbia Parc on Monday, June 7, at 12:00noon.

Columbia Parc is on the 3600 block of St. Bernard Ave. in New Orleans.

Survivors Village is asking supporters to call Columbia Parc and demand 1). drop all charges against Sharon Jasper and 2). allow for the unconditional return of former St. Bernard Housing residents.

Columbia Parc: (504) 284-4769, columbiaparc.com.

MORE:

“What Does The Arrest Of Sharon Jasper Tell Us?”

“If Resistance Builds, And It Is, Then All Is Not Well In La La Land”

Absurd as it is to have the NOPD SWAT team show up on the doorstep of an elderly, African American female activist, it is apparent that Columbia, and the police force that serves them, will stop at nothing to quell resistance.

Jun 4, 2010 By Elizabeth Cook, NOLA_C3_Discussion [New Orleans]

What does the arrest of Sharon Jasper tell us?

When the SWAT team of the NOPD showed up on Sharon Jasper’s doorstep yesterday, for all of us, that should mark the time that illusion gave way to reality, regarding the so-called new, reform chief of police, Ronald Serpas.

It is my understanding that no warrant was presented to Sharon, and the officers debated, going back and forth, on the phone with their superiors, as to what to do.

Ultimately, Sharon was arrested, and so begins the new era of NOPD enforcement of the Obama administration’s neoliberal policies, including that of “redevelopment”, and the drastic downsizing of public housing.

Mike Howells [New Orleans activist] pointed out that Warren Buffet is heavily involved in this redevelopment project.

The ruling class is banking on their ability to sell these kinds of redevelopment projects to local and state leaders, and the general public.

If resistance builds, and it is, then all is not well in la la land.

Resistance, such as the temporary take over of the Columbia Parc Residential rental office, demonstrates how far out of touch the redevelopment scheme is with the actual needs of low income residents.

The rental tiers, the lack of utility subsidies for those on fixed incomes, and the simple lack of available units, as well as draconian resident and visitors’ rules, makes it apparent that redevelopment is all about serving the property needs of middle and upper middle income residents, as well as increasing property values ultimately for the wealthy.

If the poor have nowhere to live, they will leave; property values will then see a permanent rise in value. For those low income property owners who can’t afford the rise in property taxes...too bad. You’re riding a wave that first started with the decision to keep public housing closed.

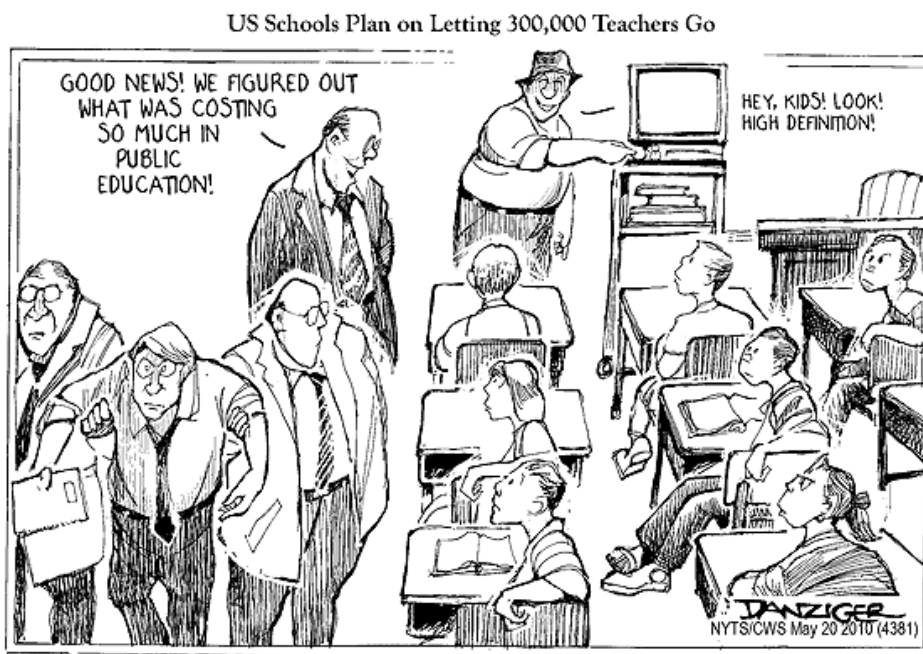
Absurd as it is to have the NOPD SWAT team show up on the doorstep of an elderly, African American female activist, it is apparent that Columbia, and the police force that serves them, will stop at nothing to quell resistance.

Even if the charges are dropped, and they will be, this event serves notice on those resisting: there is no moral or ethical consideration in the changes that have been forced on low income residents of New Orleans. Hence, we have 19,000+ homeless...and growing.

Mitch Landrieu [Mayor of New Orleans] has no hair to turn gray, as we've slowly watched Obama's hair graying, and the dismay on his face growing, as his feeble attempts to pr for his administration, in the face of this growing ecological and humanitarian crisis on the gulf coast continues.

Landrieu ought to consider this "incident" with Ms. Jasper as a red flag: real reform or lip service?

The answer is obvious, and I suppose, one we expected.



“The Bottom Sixty Percent Of Americans Own Approximately One Percent Of All Of America’s Wealth”

May 31, 2010 By David Barber, History News Network [Excerpts]

America's richest one percent of the population own over forty percent of America's wealth-exclusive of home ownership-in this, the most opulent society history has ever known.

On the other hand, the bottom sixty percent of Americans own approximately one percent of all of America's wealth.

That is, if we picture an auditorium with one hundred people and one hundred seats, the single richest person would be able to spread out smartly over nearly forty-three seats.

The poorest sixty people in the auditorium would have to make due squeezing into a single seat.

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