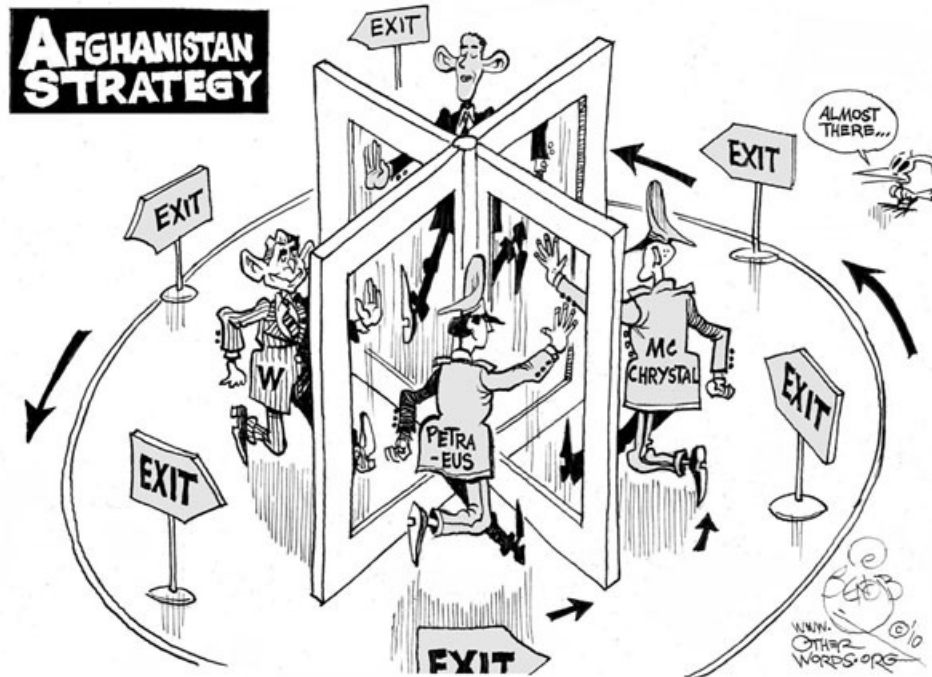


Military Resistance 8G17



“Fool’s Errand”

**It Only Took 10 Years, But Finally,
One Congressman Sort Of Gets It:**

**“Why Are All The Afghans Fighting
On The Other Side?”**

**“We Can’t Train The Afghans On Our
Side To Fight, Why?”**

[There were some British politicians who figured it even more clearly back in the days of Tom Paine, Benjamin Franklin and Sam Adams: patriots are highly motivated to fight the foreign Imperial occupier, traitors to their own nation are not, and the rest of the population know that sooner or later the foreign army will get the fuck out and go home, so best be on the winning side, which wasn’t King George back then, or Emperor Obama now. T]

13 July 2010 Congressman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Reader Supported News [Excerpt]

Why are all the Afghans fighting on the other side?

We can't train the Afghans on our side to fight, why?

Not because they're not bright, not because they're any less literate or more literate than the Taliban.

Because the people fighting on our side have no will. They don't have the motive. You can't instill that.

If they had the will and the motive they wouldn't need our help.

Without the will and the motive, our help cannot help.

So, it's a fool's errand, and I just hope and pray that we get wise enough to stop sending our young men and women to waste their lives there, and our money that could be used to prop up our own people.

Declared Bill Ehrhart, a marine in Vietnam:

In grade school we learned about the redcoats, the nasty British soldiers that tried to stifle our freedom. Subconsciously, but not very subconsciously, I began increasingly to have the feeling that I was a redcoat. I think it was one of the most staggering realizations of my life.

MORE:

“Soldiers Sell Off Their Own American-Supplied Boots, Blankets And Guns At The Bazaar – Sometimes To The Taliban”

17 July 2010 By Judith Orr, Socialist Worker UK [Excerpts] [Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

The US says it wants to hand over to the Afghan army as soon as the Taliban have been cleared from areas.

They call it the “Afghanisation” of the war and plan to build up the Afghan army to over a quarter of a million troops.

But last month Time magazine reported, “Commanders routinely steal their enlisted men's salaries.

“Soldiers sell off their own American-supplied boots, blankets and guns at the bazaar – sometimes to the Taliban... Recruits tend to go AWOLs after their first leave, while one-quarter of those who stay in service are blitzed on hashish or heroin according to an internal survey carried out by the Afghan National Army.”

ACTION REPORTS

Veterans Rally At Fort Hood East Gate To Condemn Wars On Iraq And Afghanistan



[Thanks to Sally Davidson, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

Jul. 8 2010 By Amanda Kim Stairrett, Killeen Daily Herald

In conjunction with the sixth annual Iraq Veterans Against the War convention in Austin, Killeen's Under the Hood Café is hosting a concert and barbecue Saturday.

Under the Hood, at 17 S. College St., is a "place for soldiers to gather, relax and speak freely about the wars and the military," according to www.underthehoodcafe.org. Organizers also provide support services for soldiers and their families, including counseling and legal advice.

Set to perform are Travis Bishop, who was arrested in August at Fort Hood after refusing to deploy to Afghanistan, Ryan Harvey and R.A.S. Admission is free for those with military identification and a suggested donation of \$5 each for those without.

This is the first large-scale event Under the Hood has hosted, said Manager Cynthia Thomas. The goal of Saturday's event is to let veterans and the military community know Under the Hood is there and willing to support them, Thomas added.

The Iraq Veterans Against the War convention began Thursday at Austin's Huston-Tillotson University and ends Sunday. Activities include Fort Hood outreach, panels and workshops.

Iraq Veterans Against the War is a nationwide organization made of past and present soldiers who have served since Sept. 11, 2001, according to information from the organization. It was founded six years ago during a Veterans for Peace convention in Boston "to give a voice to the large number of active-duty service people and veterans who are against this war, but are under various pressures to remain silent," according to its website, www.ivaw.org.

It is also "dedicated to fighting for adequate physical and mental health care, full benefits and other support for returning veterans," read www.ivaw.org.

Goals of the convention are to discuss important issues in the veterans' movement and "serve as a significant opportunity for support in a recovering community," Jose Vasquez, executive director of Iraq Veterans Against the War, said in a statement released by the organization.

Austin was chosen as the convention site because it is an hour from Fort Hood.

"This community, especially due to past traumatic events, deserves our outreach and everyone's attention," he said. "It is part of (Iraq Veterans Against the War's) mission to reach out to those service members and veterans who have been fighting since Sept. 11. If they are questioning the illegal wars and occupations and choose to resist, we support them."



Conference attendees and local activists protested at Fort Hood's East Gate Thursday, chanting and displaying signs that said they support troops when they disobey their officers; calling for an end to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and return of American troops; repealing the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and Arizona's

immigration enforcement law; getting Israel out of Gaza; and supporting no war but the class war.

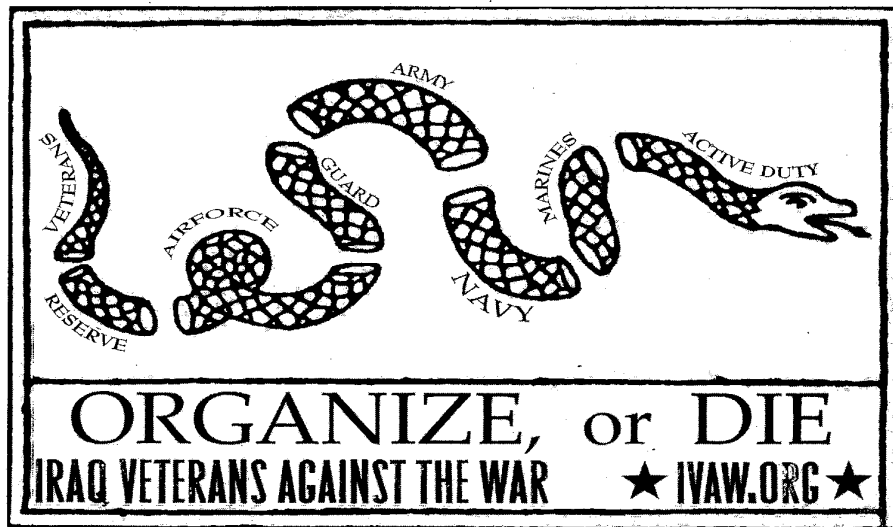
The protesters, many of whom were Iraq veterans, marched along Veterans Memorial Boulevard and Fort Hood Street, chanting and carrying signs.

Chants included "Resistance is justified when people are occupied," "They're our brothers, they're our sisters, we support war resisters," "Money for jobs and education, not for Afghan occupation" and "Occupation is a crime from Iraq to Palestine."

Matt Southworth served as an intelligence analyst from 2002 to 2004, serving a tour to Iraq. He now works as a campaigns program assistant for the Friends Committee on National Legislation, a Quaker lobbying group that operates in Washington, D.C.

Southworth said he and others support the troops, but are against the war, and one of his prime focuses is ensuring veterans get the health care they need.

Support is key, said Chris Capps-Schubert, a former signal soldier who served for three years before being discharged for desertion. The convention and protest aim to show veterans at Fort Hood that Iraq Veterans Against the War has a presence. It's a place to turn to, he said, adding that veterans can get in contact with those who can support them.



MORE:

**Iraq Veterans Against The War Rock
The Hood:
"5 More Active Duty Troops Have Signed
On"**



From: Ward Reilly, Veterans Against The War
To: Military Resistance
Sent: July 12, 2010

7 active duty soldiers from Ft Hood at "Under The Hood" GI coffee house, being introduced to the crowd during a fund raising concert near in Killeen, Tx. Also in attendance were Travis Bishop and Victor Agosto, both recently released from prison for refusing to deploy to Iraq.

They were all joined by 100 members of IVAW and their allies, where they enjoyed several fine performances of music and spoken word, by Bobby Whittenberg, Travis Bishop, Ryan Harvey, and Robynn Murray...

Since Saturday night's event, 5 more active duty troops have signed on from Ft. Hood.

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

“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

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

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

July 19 AP

A foreign servicemember died as a result of an IED strike in southern Afghanistan today.

**“Private Brandon King Was
Standing Regular Guard Duty In A
Watch Tower When He Was Killed
By A Single Shot That Was
Anything But Normal”
“Troops Believe The Bullet Was Fired
From More Than 400 Metres (Yards),
Sapping Morale At All Combat Posts
In The Area”**

The Col. Says “It’s A Field-To-Field Fight, So Unless I Put A Combat Outpost In Every Field, It’s And Endless Game”



U.S. Army Lt. Col. David Flynn in his command post at Combat Outpost Terra Nova in Kandahar, Afghanistan, July 19, 2010. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

20 Jul 2010 By Rob Taylor

OUTPOST TERRANOVA, Afghanistan, July 20 (Reuters)

Private Brandon King was standing regular guard duty in a watch tower near Charqulba village in southern Afghanistan when he was killed by a single shot that was anything but normal.

King was hit in the head from long range, raising fears that foreign fighters with exceptional skills may have reinforced local Taliban as U.S. troops prepare an assault on insurgent strongholds, the area’s U.S. battalion commander said.

“I would characterise them right now as out of the area,” Lieutenant-Colonel David Flynn told Reuters.

“What country they are from I couldn’t necessarily tell you. But the skill of the enemy fighter that took down my soldier the other day is not something that was trained here,” Flynn said.

[Maybe, maybe not. The presumption that Afghans are incapable of expert marksmanship, or that sniper rifles are unavailable to them, is a silly stupid idea that has no foundation in material reality.]

King's unit was based just outside Charqulba at Combat Outpost Nolen, now experiencing daily attacks from insurgents operating out of the deserted village below. Local people have long since fled the fighting.

The Arghandab river valley is critical to the upcoming NATO and U.S. battle in Kandahar city to the southeast, as insurgents there have been able to slip into the city using its fertile grape and pomegranate fields for cover.

Southern Arghandab's farmlands are the district's last cover and concealment zone, in a maze of mud-walled villages known to U.S. commanders as "the triangle".

The governor here was recently assassinated and his replacement is now on what troops call the "rock star" tour, trying to win over local tribal elders in a series of high -- security village visits.

Flynn, who commands **an artillery battalion recast as infantry** and belonging to the U.S. 101st Airborne Division's 2nd "Strike" Brigade -- newly arrived in Kandahar -- said foreign fighters were coming from Pakistan and travelling west.

With local insurgents, they are also seeding the area with roadside bombs.

Three soldiers lost limbs over the past week, while two soldiers were injured on Monday and airlifted out by helicopter for treatment.

A forensic investigation is underway into King's death, Flynn said, to determine whether the bullet was from a specialized sniper rifle or just a freak AK-47 shot.

But King's fellow soldiers, who will have a memorial service on Tuesday, have few doubts.

His base, COP Nolen, is now notorious across the battalion and troops believe the bullet was fired from more than 400 metres (yards), sapping morale at all combat posts in the area.

Most insurgents in the valley are generally unskilled and when in contact with U.S. troops, fire wildly with AK-47s or rocket propelled grenades (RPGs), Flynn said. Most RPGs fired were causing only concussion injuries.

"We have fortunately not yet until now seen in this area very skilled marksmen," he said.

"I don't think the Taliban has a marksmanship program."

[Time to send the Col. home. For one thing, he don't look so good, see photo above, and more to the point:

[1. “The maxim in war, that your enemy is ever to be dreaded until at your feet, ought to be held inviolate.” -- Major-Gen. Light Horse Harry Lee; “War In The Southern Department Of The United States: Accounts Of The American Revolution”]

[2. “It is ignorance and negligence that are unforgivable, fatal faults. You must never underestimate the enemy.” -- Mubarakshah; The Rules Of War]

While the pool of potential fighters was virtually without limit, Flynn said there were probably only 40-50 hardcore insurgents in his eight kilometre (five mile) section of the valley, home to 57,000 people.

“It’s a field-to-field fight, so unless I put a combat outpost in every field, it’s an endless game,” says Flynn.

“The answer has got to come from the people.” [The answer *is* “coming from the people.” He just doesn’t get it. Most British officers had the same problem after 1776. His words are timeless; King George couldn’t “put a combat outpost in every field” either. Imperial armies of occupation have had that problem from time to time for the past several thousand years. T]

Illinois Sgt. Killed In Paktika



Sgt. Matthew W. Weikert, 29, of Jacksonville, Ill., died July 17 in Paktika province, Afghanistan, of wounds sustained when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

South Carolina Sgt. Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class John H. Jarrell, 32, of Brunson, S.C., died July 15 in Kandahar province after his unit was attacked with an improvised explosive. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Texas Sgt. Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Sgt. Leston M. Winters, 30, of Sour Lake, Texas, died July 15 in Kandahar province after his unit was attacked with an improvised explosive. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Missouri Sgt. Killed In Zabul



U.S. Army Sgt. Zachary M. Fisher, 24, of Ballwin, Mo., died July 14, 2010, at Forward Operating Base Lagman in Zabul Province in Afghanistan of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his military vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Fisher was assigned to the 618th Engineer Support Company (Airborne), 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat), Fort Bragg, N.C. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Pennsylvania Soldier Killed In Zabul



U.S. Army Spc. Jesse D. Reed, 26, of Orefield, Pa., died July 14, at Forward Operating Base Lagman in Zabul Province in Afghanistan of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his military vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Reed was assigned to the 618th Engineer Support Company (Airborne), 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat), Fort Bragg, N.C. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Minnesota Soldier Killed In Zabul



U.S. Army Spc. Matthew J. Johnson, 21, of Maplewood, Minn., died July 14, at Forward Operating Base Lagman in Zabul Province in Afghanistan of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his military vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Johnson was assigned to the 618th Engineer Support Company (Airborne), 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat), Fort Bragg, N.C. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

California Soldier Killed In Zabul



U.S. Army Spc. Chase B. Stanley, 21, of Napa, Calif., died July 14, 2010, at Forward Operating Base Lagman in Zabul Province in Afghanistan of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his military vehicle with an improvised explosive device. Stanley was assigned to the 618th Engineer Support Company (Airborne), 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat) (Airborne), 20th Engineer Brigade (Combat), Fort Bragg, N.C. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Roadside Bomb Wounds 4 German Soldiers In Lala Maidan

19.07.2010 TREND News Agency

Four German soldiers were injured as a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in Afghanistan's northern Kunduz province on Monday, spokesman with the NATO-led forces in the province Lieutenant Colonel Webber said. "The incident occurred in Ali Abad district at 05:30 a.m. local time as a result three or four German soldiers were injured," Webber told Xinhua.

Meantime, governor of Kunduz province Mohammad Omar also said that the blast took place in Lala Maidan village of Ali Abad district this morning injuring four German soldiers.

Resistance Action

7.16.10 AP & 7.19 Reuters & ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sporadic loud blasts were heard in the Afghan capital early on Tuesday as dozens of foreign ministers, including U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, slept before a conference on the country's future.

A security blanket has been thrown over the capital for the conference, with the area that houses the capital's diplomatic and government quarter under virtual lockdown.

At least four loud blasts were heard near the heavily barricaded and fortified area around midnight (1930 GMT) but Kabul is frequently the target of bloody bomb and commando-style attacks.

A roadside bombing has killed six Afghan policemen in the country's south. Chief of Khakrez district in Kandahar province Abdul Qayum Khan said four others were injured in Monday's blast. He said the policemen were on their way to Kandahar city when the bombing occurred.

In Uruzgan province, insurgents manning a checkpoint pulled a district leader out of his vehicle and shot him dead Tuesday, according to Gulab Khan, the provincial deputy police chief.

Insurgents captured five Health Ministry employees in Kandahar province.

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

**U.S. Occupation A Total Success
In Bringing American Form Of
Government To Afghanistan!
“The Authorities Have Got Their
Teeth Into The Flesh And Bones Of
The People, And These Members Of
Parliament Have Done Nothing”
“Their Mouths Are Taped Shut With
Dollar Bills, And They Cannot
Articulate The People’s Views”**

Jamil said angrily that he would not be voting for anyone in September. “This time, I will vote for neither old nor new candidates,” he said. “That way, if they commit any misdeed, my soul will be at rest since I won’t have voted for them.”

19 Jul 10 By Hafiz Ahmad Amir Khil – Afghanistan; Institute for War & Peace Reporting [Excerpts]

Shah Mohammad, a voter in Kandahar in the south of the country, said legislators forgot about their electorate once they acquired power.

“We were wrong to vote for those members of parliament. Security is deteriorating in Kandahar, civilians are being killed by foreign bombardments, people are getting poorer day after day, and no development work has been implemented,” he said.

“But our members of parliament are just lining their pockets. Their mouths are taped shut with dollar bills, and they cannot articulate the people’s views.”

Jamil, a prospective voter in Nangarhar in the southeast Afghanistan, said he was not just dissatisfied with the performance accomplishments of the parliament members, but also blamed them for corruption and wrongdoing.

“I know members of parliament who didn’t have a single property in Nangarhar city before entering office, but now possess countless houses and land plots,” he said.

“And at the same time, there is no electricity in Nangarhar, and people are unemployed and suffer under the unauthorised searches conducted by foreign troops.

“The authorities have got their teeth into the flesh and bones of the people, and these members of parliament have done nothing.”

Jamil said angrily that he would not be voting for anyone in September.

“This time, I will vote for neither old nor new candidates,” he said.

“That way, if they commit any misdeed, my soul will be at rest since I won’t have voted for them.”

Habibullah Rafi, a writer and political analyst, said that in a truly free and fair election, most of the sitting members would not win.

“Most of these members of parliament are not true representatives of the people; they entered the legislature by virtue of their power and only approved certain laws to award themselves immunity from possible trial and cover up their crimes,” he said.

WELCOME TO THE LONELY SIDE OF HELL: ALL HOME NOW!



United States soldiers of the 82nd Airborne patrol in the Arghandab Valley, outside Kandahar City, July 10 ,2010. (AP Photo/Kevin Frayer)

TROOP NEWS

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



The honor guard passes by a picture of Spc. Ryan Grady of West Burke, Vt., as they carry his casket July 17, 2010, at the North Congregational Church in St. Johnsbury, Vt. Specialist Grady was killed and four other soldiers seriously injured just over a week ago when their reinforced patrol Humvee struck an improvised explosive device while patrolling outside Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Alden Pellett)

CHECK OUT THE NEW ISSUE OF TRAVELING

<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/TS31.pdf>

THIS ISSUE FEATURING:

**ARMY LIFE: "THE CHAIN OF COMMAND AND THEIR GENERAL SELFISHNESS
AND HABITUAL EXPLOITATION OF THE LOWER ENLISTED"**

**By Soldier R, Traveling Soldier Correspondent
Reporting from Germany**

**"EVEN BEFORE I HAD LEFT THE NAVY I REALIZED THAT I WAS NOT
PROTECTING FREEDOM OR DEFENDING THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITES
STATES"**

By F. Bouthillette (USNR, Veteran, Iraq Theatre)

MORE ARMY LIFE: "INTELLIGENCE IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE A SENIOR IN THE MILITARY"

By Soldier R, Traveling Soldier Correspondent
Reporting from Germany

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/>

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization

**"We Cannot Make It Any Clearer To
The Chain Of Command That This
Hat Is Horrible For Daily Wear"
"Of Course, Nobody Wants To Tell The
Chief Of Staff In Person What They Know
He Does Not Want To Hear"**

Letters To The Editor
Army Times
April 12, 2010

I am surprised that a general would be so well-insulated from the troops that he does not see the true hatred of the "black wool sock." Army Knowledge Online is full of forums with negative comments. Letters are constantly being published on this subject ("Casey: Beret here to stay," June 21).

I even submitted a suggestion about this topic through the Army Suggestion Program, but was told basically that clothing was "not our department."

I suggested that we switch the beret to class A or B wear only, and put the Army Combat Uniform-wearing force back into soft caps. We can even cut down on the issue of the

beret by only giving new recruits one instead of two. This whole idea would not cost the Army anything, and in fact would save more than \$7 for each new soldier in uniform.

We cannot make it any clearer to the chain of command that this hat is horrible for daily wear. Let's change it now.

Sgt. 1st Class Benerval Grimes
Fort Sill, Okla.

MORE:

Letters To The Editor
Army Times
April 12, 2010

In the article "Casey: Beret here to stay" (June 21), the chief of staff stated, "I can count on one hand the number of guys or gals that have stood up and said, 'I hate this thing.' "

Of course, nobody wants to tell the chief of staff in person what they know he does not want to hear.

However, it made me wonder, does the chief read Army Times? Even if Army Times has skewed printed letters one way for the past 10 years, I'm relatively confident that I've read more than a handful of "I hate this thing" letters.

1st Sgt. Raymond Viens
Coventry, R.I.

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

-- V. I. Lenin; What Is To Be Done

A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners.

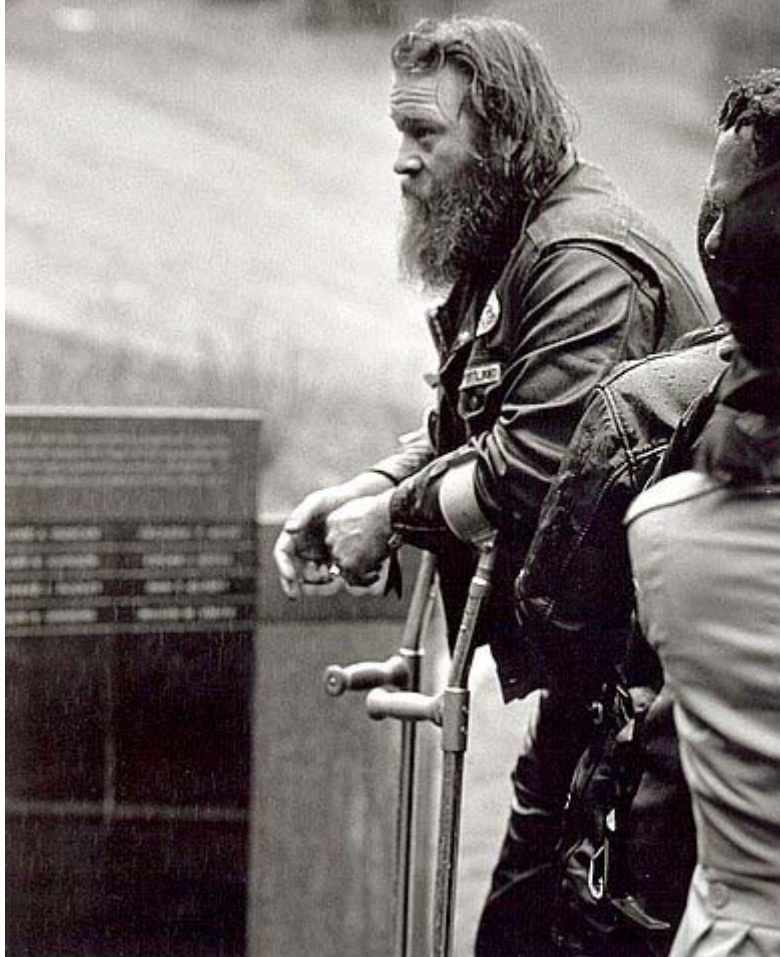
-- Leon Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution

“The Nixon administration claimed and received great credit for withdrawing the Army from Vietnam, but it was the rebellion of low-ranking GIs that forced the government to abandon a hopeless suicidal policy”

-- David Cortright; Soldiers In Revolt

It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.

Page 6A Of USA Today



Vietnam veteran attends the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Portland, Oregon on Veterans Day 1987. Here Rests In Silence An American War Known But To God... Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: July 17, 2010
Subject: Page 6A of USA Today

Page 6A of USA Today

I bought the USA Today newspaper
last night dated: July 15, 2010.
On page 6A,
there was a small article at the bottom
of the page that was titled:
"3 attacks kill 8 U.S. service members.

(The title was not in capital letters.)

The article started out by saying:

Kabul, Afghanistan:

“U.S. forces suffered a deadly 24 hours in Afghanistan, as eight servicemembers were killed in attacks, including a Taliban raid on a police compound in the southern city of Kandahar, officials said Wednesday.”

The article was rather short, with the usual diversions of leading the reader to other information that had nothing to do with the American soldiers being killed.

No names were listed.

The article had less than 200 words.

Most of the information was a vague extrapolation of what is going on in America’s longest war.

Now, lets look at the front page of the paper.

The main article was titled:

“Problem nurses fall through the cracks.”

The article was essentially about drug addicted nurses who continue to work because they have multistate licenses.

(I think another article should have been titled:

“Problem dead soldiers fall through the cracks.”)

Just above this main article about nurses, were pictures of three celebrities.

One was Danica Patrick, who is a NASCAR driver.

Another was a picture of Leonardo DiCaprio, who as we all know is a famous actor.

It mentioned his new film, “Inception.”

The last picture was of Tiger Woods, who as we all know is a famous horny golfer.

The title of the brief caption, which was in large bold print:

“Rain joins Tiger in Scotland.”

The war in Afghanistan has been going on for 9 years now.

1,100 Americans have been killed.

Untold numbers have been wounded.

Thousands of roadside bombs are planted throughout the country.

4,412 American soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the U.S. launched 800 cruise missiles into Baghdad in the first 48 hours of a war that started on March 19, 2003.

Over 30,000 American soldiers have been wounded.

At least one out of three American soldiers and veterans who have served in these wars suffer from “PTSD.”

Hundreds of active duty soldiers and veterans have committed suicide.

The criminal justice system is seeing untold numbers of Iraq and Afghanistan veterans who are being sent to prison for crimes committed as a direct result of their "PTSD."

The number of civilians who have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan is unfathomable.

The number of homeless children is unspeakable.

So, as the bold type states:

"Rain joins Tiger in Scotland."

USA Today, on the front page.

I have been back from Vietnam for 40 years.

And, the state of mind of this country is at the bottom, just like when we vets came back from that horrible war.

Once again, America is in a coma.

It reminds me of a psychiatric hospital.

Poor Tiger has to play in the rain.

And it got on the front page of USA Today, while an article about 8 American soldiers who were killed in 24 hours was on page 6A.

This lack of headline media coverage, is as bad as finding out that American soldiers killed in Vietnam were being sent back to the U.S. in containers filled with heroin. (((True Story)))

As an American citizen,

and the son of a WWII combat veteran, I'm glad my father is not alive to see this corporate slaughter of humanity.

America loves its celebrities, far more than it does its own people who are dying senselessly in these wars for profit thousands of miles away.

Here Rests In Silence...

An American Soldier Known But To God.

They say a soldier dies twice.

Once when he/she is killed in war, and the other time when he/she is forgotten.

America has forgotten its history.

The memory loss is unprecedented.

And when that happens, the moral lights go out.

Betrayal is the ultimate terror.

Lying is the most powerful weapon in war.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
July 17, 2010

Staff Sgt. Shaun M. Mittler, 32, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Spc. Carlos J. Negron, 40, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Lance Cpl. Tyler A. Roads, 20, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Staff Sgt. Jesse W. Ainsworth, 24, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Sgt. Donald R. Edgerton, 33, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Spc. Joseph W. Dimock II, 21, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Sgt. Robert W. Crow, 42, killed in Afghanistan July 10, 2010
Reported by the Oregonian Newspaper on July 17, 2010 on page A5.

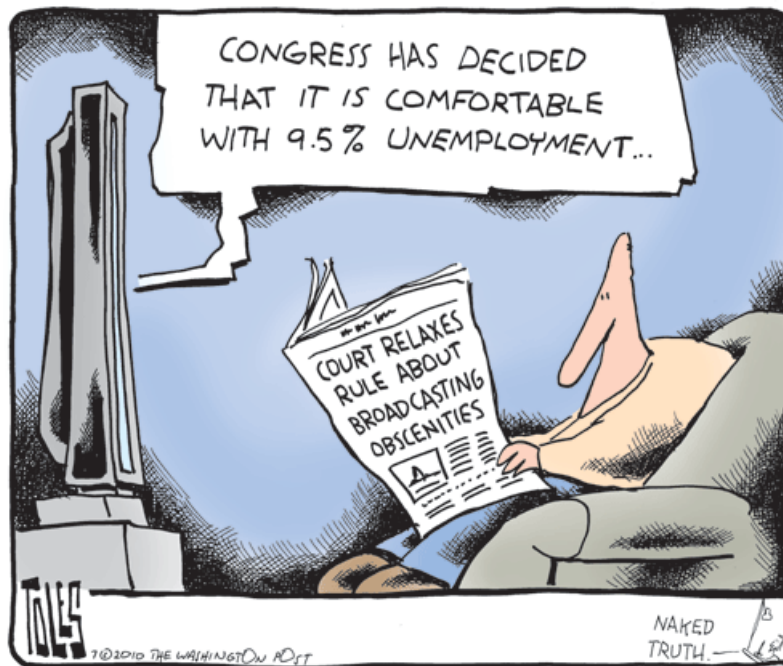
According to USA Today, the other 8 American soldiers were killed in Afghanistan on July 13-14, 2010. As stated before, their names were not listed.

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**How The Barbara Lee And The Treacherous Fake “Anti-War” Democrats Voted To Keep The Afghan War Going:
“Enough Leading Anti-War Democrats Voted For The Actual Funding Bill That They Could Have Defeated It Had They Voted ‘No’”
“All Three Of The Democrat Anti-War Amendment Co-Sponsors Mentioned Above Voted For The Final War Funding Bill”**



Fake “anti-war” Democrats meet to plan clever ways to deceive the public while making sure more U.S. troops and Afghans die.

July 9, 2010 By GREGORY VICKREY, CounterPunch

The vote in the House of Representatives last Thursday (July 1, 2010) approved \$33 billion more for Barack Obama’s escalation of the war in Afghanistan.

Most accounts of the vote in the progressive media viewed the vote positively, focusing on the various anti-war amendments that failed, but got sizable votes. The one with broadest support (162 “Yes” votes) would have required Obama to produce an exit plan. Its sponsors included Democrats David Obey (WI) and Jim McGovern (MA).

Another would have funded the exit of the troops. It was sponsored by Democrat Barbara Lee (CA) and got 100 “Yes” votes.

An even stronger anti-war amendment, however, got only 25 “Yes” votes.

But these progressive media accounts looking primarily at the breadth of support for the exit plan amendment have overlooked a couple of key numbers that reveal an entirely new view of the votes on the bill and its amendments.

The first key number is the vote on the main bill itself.

Because all of the GOP voted against it in order to reject the domestic spending sweeteners added by Nancy Pelosi, this vote was much closer. It passed by 215 to 210.

If only 3 more “Yes” voters would have voted “No”, the funding bill would have failed (by 212 “Yes” vs. 213 “No”). Failure of the bill to pass would have been an earthquake in US politics.

The other key number overlooked by most progressive media accounts of the vote was this: enough leading anti-war Democrats voted for the actual funding bill that they could have defeated it had they voted “No”.

Among leading anti-war Democrats, which ones voted for the war funding?

First, Barbara Lee voted for the war funds. She represents Berkeley, California, and part of Oakland.

Being from this heavily anti-war district, many anti-war activists assume she votes against all war funding bills. She has been a heroine-of-sorts of the anti-war movement for years.

Next, we have the Out of Afghanistan Caucus, started in May 2010 by John Conyers. In the morning on the day of the vote, the caucus held a press conference to urge a NO vote on the war funding.

Five of the eight Democrats conducting this press conference actually voted for the war funding that evening, after participating in the press conference about voting “No”! Conyers, Bob Filner (CA), and Alan Grayson (FL) voted “No”; voting “Yes” were Sheila Jackson Lee (TX), Maxine Waters (CA), Mike Honda (CA), Judy Chu (CA), and Barbara Lee.

Next, we can look at the Democratic sponsors of the various anti-war amendments to the bill.

We would expect these Democrats to not only sponsor their anti-war amendments, but to also vote against the final war funding bill itself.

But all three of the Democrat anti-war amendment co-sponsors mentioned above voted for the final war funding bill: David Obey (WI), Jim McGovern (MA), and Barbara Lee (CA).

Finally, we should mention Pete Stark, another San Francisco Bay Area Democrat. While he tends to keep a low profile, he often actually casts more progressive votes than Barbara Lee.

(For example, he was one of the few “No” votes in the House vote on heavier sanctions against Iran, which passed by 408-8 on June 24.

Barbara Lee voted for those sanctions.)

Even Pete Stark voted FOR the Afghan war funding last week.

If just three of these leading anti-war Democrats had switched their vote to “No” on the Afghan war funding bill, it would have failed.

This would have given the anti-war movement a huge boost, even if war-funder-in-chief Nancy Pelosi had organized another vote and courted Republican support to guarantee its passage.

Such a scenario would have exposed the Democratic leadership as co-equal pillars of the war (which they are), along with the GOP and the Democrat in the White House. Instead, when they had a golden opportunity to defeat the war funding bill, our leading “anti-war” Democrats betrayed us.

Notes:

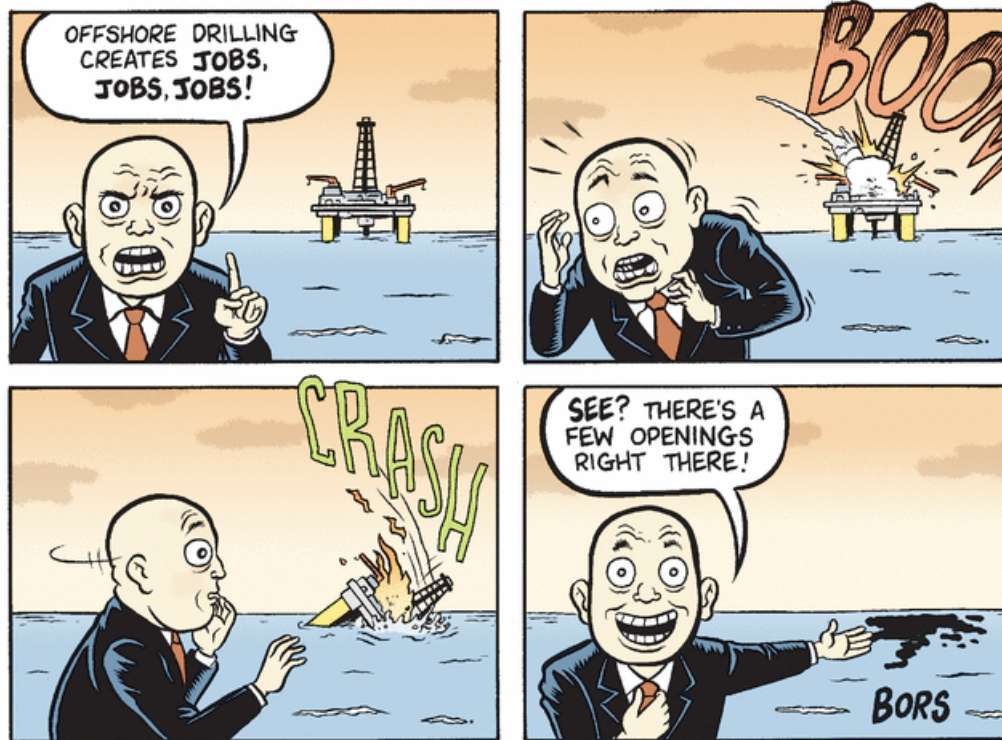
1. The roll call vote on the war funding bill which passed by 215-210 is here; check to see how your representative voted: <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2010/roll428.xml> .

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THE BLOODSHED**

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