

## **Military Resistance 8H14**

General Petraeus Finds the War is a Tough Sell



**U.S. Military Occupation Forces In  
Iraq Suffered 21 Combat Casualties  
Between July 7 And Aug. 3:  
U.S. Military Occupation Forces In  
Afghanistan Suffered 560 Combat  
Casualties Between July 7 And Aug 3**

[Thanks to David McReynolds for posting]

August 13, 2010 Michaelmunk.com [Excerpts]

US military occupation forces in Iraq and Afghanistan suffered 1,165 casualties between July 7 and Aug 3, as the official total jumped to a total of at least 95,679 casualties.

The total includes 76,485 casualties since the US invaded Iraq ("Operation Iraqi Freedom") in March, 2004 and 18,272 in the Afghanistan theater (Operation "Enduring Freedom") since the US invaded Afghanistan in October, 2001.

US military occupation forces in Iraq under Commander-in-Chief Obama suffered 21 combat casualties between July 7 and Aug. 3, as the official total since the March 2003 invasion jumped to at least 76,485.

That includes 35,391 dead and wounded from what the Pentagon classifies as "hostile" causes and more than 41,094 dead and medically evacuated (as of July 31) from "non-hostile" causes.

US military occupation forces in Afghanistan theater now under Commander-in-Chief Obama have suffered 560 combat casualties between July 7 and Aug 3, as the official total as of Aug. 3 jumped to 19,194.

That includes the 8,191 dead and wounded from "hostile" causes and 11,003 (as of July 31) dead and medically evacuated from "non-hostile" causes.

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Resistance Action**

Aug 11 (Reuters) & Aug 12 (Reuters) & Aug 14 (Reuters) & Gulf Today & ABC News

Insurgents opened fire at an Iraqi army checkpoint, killing one soldier and wounding another, in western Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

Insurgents opened fire at an Iraqi police checkpoint on Wednesday, killing one policeman and wounding two policemen, in central Garma, 30 km (20 miles) northwest of Baghdad, police said.

The explosion of a bomb inside a house killed eight Iraqi soldiers and wounded four others in the town of Sadiya, 80 km (50 miles) northeast of Baquba, the capital of Diyala province, police said.

Insurgents killed two policemen in the northern Qahira district of Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

**SAMARRA** - A roadside bomb wounded six policemen when it exploded near their patrol in central Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad, on Friday, police said.

**HAWIJA** - A bomb attached to a bike wounded a policeman when it exploded near a police patrol in Hawija, 210 km (130 miles) north of Baghdad, on Friday, police said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents using silencer guns killed two policemen after storming a checkpoint in eastern Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said. The attackers then put the bodies in a police vehicle and set it on fire.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents attacked a police checkpoint, killing two policemen in the Baghdad's southwestern district of Amil, an Interior Ministry source said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents attacked a government-backed militia checkpoint, killing one member and wounding two others in the Baghdad's northern Shaab district, an Interior Ministry source said.

BAGHDAD - A bomb attached to car wounded a policeman in southwestern Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

18 people were wounded when three bombs, targeting the house of a government militia leader and the houses of two police officers, exploded in central Samarra, 100 kilometres north of Baghdad.

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## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Australian Soldier Killed In Afghanistan**

14 Aug 2010 3 News

A week after the death of Kiwi soldier Lieutenant Tim O'Donnell an Australian special forces soldier has died in Afghanistan.

Twenty-nine-year-old Trooper Jason Brown is the 18th Australian soldier to die in the war-torn area.

Acting Defence Force chief Lieutenant General David Hurley says Trooper Brown was a member of the Perth-based Special Air Service Regiment, the Dominion Post reported.

Trooper Brown was shot overnight while assisting in a "disruption operation" in northern Kandahar, he received multiple gunshot wounds.

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### **Soldier Of 21 Engineer Regiment Killed In Nad-E Ali**

14 Aug 10 Ministry of Defence

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must announce that a soldier from the Queen's Gurkha Engineers serving with 21 Engineer Regiment, was killed in Afghanistan on Friday 13 August 2010.

The soldier was killed by small arms fire in the Nad-e Ali District of Helmand Province.

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## **Slain Soldier's Strength, Humor Remembered**

Aug. 2, 2010 By JIM FENNELL, New Hampshire Union Leader

MANCHESTER – Kyle Warren was a mountain of man known for being as nice off the field as he was intimidating on it.

That's how several of his teammates and good friends from the Amoskeag Rugby Football Club of Manchester remember the 28-year-old who died Thursday in Afghanistan.

Staff Sgt. Kyle R. Warren was one of two U.S. Special Forces soldiers who, according to the Defense Department, died after insurgents attacked their military vehicle with an improvised explosive device in Tsagay, Afghanistan.

Warren, his team's medical sergeant, was part of the Army's 1st Battalion, 3rd Special Forces (Airborne) based out of Fort Bragg, N.C.

He was one of a handful of members of the local rugby club who enlisted in the armed services around 2004.

Warren, a California native who moved to the area to be near his mother, was sharing a Central Street home in Manchester with brothers Justin and Josh Veverka when they all decided to enlist. Warren and Justin Veverka joined the Army; Josh Veverka signed up for the Navy. Their friend Ben Lacroix was already in the process of joining the Army.

All four ended up doing tours in Iraq.

While the others left the service after their commitments were met, Warren recently re-enlisted.

He had got married a year ago and, according to Josh Veverka, he and his wife agreed he would do one more tour.

Justin Veverka remembers hitting it off with Warren immediately after meeting him for the first time at rugby practice. Warren, nearly 6-foot-3 and close to 240 pounds at the time, joined the club in 2002 and quickly established himself in the team's second row as a punishing force when the ball went in the air.

"He would slam whoever was unlucky enough to catch it," said Josh Veverka, now an engineering student at Louisiana State University.

Bob Bishop of Bedford, a former Amoskeag Rugby Club president, used to drive with Warren to practice when Warren was living at his mother's home in that town after first moving to the area.

"He was a great guy," Bishop said. "He fit in great. He was really well-liked and made a lot of good friends."

Bishop said Warren was an experienced player who grew up playing the game in California and, later, in college in Arizona.

"He was a big, strong guy," Bishop said. "And a really nice guy."

Warren met his future wife Sandy here. Sandy was going to school at Southern New Hampshire with Josh Veverka when she was first introduced to Warren in 2003.

"He was just a goofy, fun guy," Josh Veverka said. "He loved to yap."

Justin Veverka said he was not all that surprised when Warren decided to re-enlist. He said members of the Special Forces are an elite outfit treated well by the Army. "They're the cream of the crop," Justin Veverka said.

Justin Veverka said he saw members of his unit die in Iraq, but the news of Warren's death hit hard.

"This was different," he said. "I couldn't believe it."

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**Kandahar Leadership Tells JCS  
Chief Mullen To Shove It:  
"Ninety Percent Of Your  
Assistance Is Going To The  
Taliban"  
"Mullen, Who Appeared Grim-Faced  
At Moments, Noted That In The Past  
Month, The Taliban Killed 45  
Civilians"**

# **“None Of Them Would Have Been Killed, The Third Elder Said, ‘If You Weren’t Here’”**

To the north of this city, U.S. soldiers are in the throes of an arduous operation to clear insurgents from lush vineyards and pomegranate groves. To the east, other newly arrived U.S. units are preparing for another wave of clearing operations.

Not to be left out, Kandahar’s feisty mayor has decided to do some clearing of his own: He recently ordered a bustling bazaar next to the governor’s palace to be razed in the name of counterinsurgency.

The controversy spilled forth during a recent visit here by Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, when he sat down with three tribal elders at the provincial reconstruction team’s headquarters.

“The voice of ordinary people doesn’t reach this government,” one of the elders said. “The mayor doesn’t listen to us. He’s a mayor who destroys things.”

As a consequence, he said, the shopkeepers will “either start stealing or they’ll join the Taliban.”

In the battle for this city, military commanders often note, the key terrain is not geographic but human. It involves getting residents to forsake the Taliban and side with the government and its international allies.

But the elders’ complaints, which involved far more than just the bazaar, revealed how far the Afghan government -- and all the Americans working here -- are from reaching that goal.

**It is rare that a senior commander gets to hear such unvarnished grievances.**

**When military leaders and members of Congress visit Afghanistan, their interactions with Afghans, if there are any, are usually limited to brief meetings with government officials.**

But Mullen insisted on seeing the elders during a day-long trip because he had promised, when he met them a year ago, that he would return to hear their views.

**“Nothing has changed except one thing: We didn’t want operations, but operations have started,” said one of the other elders.**

“Are you bringing security here or are you bringing violence?” asked the elder who criticized the mayor. Mullen’s aides asked that the participants not be named because of concerns about retribution.

“We’re bringing security,” Mullen responded. Military operations are necessary, he said, “so that good governance can be put in place.”

But the men appeared unconvinced. “The problem in this country is that there just isn’t administration that’s effective,” the elder said.

He also complained that U.S. reconstruction aid, particularly support for farmers, is winding up in the wrong hands. “Ninety percent of your assistance is going to the Taliban,” he said.

Mullen, who appeared grim-faced at moments, noted that in the past month, the Taliban killed 45 civilians, while coalition forces killed five.

But once again, the elders were unmoved.

None of them would have been killed, the third elder said, “if you weren’t here.”

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## **WELCOME TO OBAMAWORLD: WHERE EVERY DEATH IN COMBAT ACCOMPLISHES NOTHING AT ALL**



July 29, 2010: U.S. soldiers assist a comrade caught in the blast of an IED near COP Nolen, Arghandab Valley, Kandahar, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

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

## MILITARY NEWS

### HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



The casket of Army Pfc. David T. Miller at Arlington National Cemetery July 28, 2010. Miller of Wilton, N.Y. was killed in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

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**British Soldier In Prison For Refusing To Go Back To Afghanistan Got “Massive Support” From Other Soldiers: “I Remember This Big, Scary Commando Coming Over. I Thought, Uh-Oh”**  
**“He Said, ‘You’re That Guy, Aren’t You? Good Egg, Good Lad’”**

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

14 August 2010 Joe Glenton, The Guardian [Excerpts]

I was 22 when I joined the army. It was always an ambition and I believed the army was a force for good, helping developing nations become more stable. I wanted to be



involved in that. My first operation was Afghanistan in 2006. I'd never even been on a plane before, so everything felt new and exciting. We all wanted to get out there and prove ourselves.

On tour, you try to shove feelings of doubt to one side. But one day a comrade said, "Why are we here?" and the question hung around. Nobody seemed to know. I suppose all young soldiers are naive. The culture of the army is obedience, and you believe your government has your best interests at heart. But when I returned home after seven months, I was determined not to be blind any more. I read about the history of the conflict and began to realise I had been duped. This wasn't a war about liberation, it was about strategic influence; about economics and mineral wealth.

But after seven months, I was told I had to go back. I raised my objections with my commander and told him I didn't agree with the war. He called me a coward and said, "You're a soldier, you go where you're told." By that time, we were on build-up training to go on tour, so I faced a stark choice. I booked a cheap flight to Bangkok and left.

Eventually I called the awol hotline in the UK. I'd been gone for a year and a half. It was such a relief to talk after being silent for so long. Six months later we flew home.

It was tense and strange going back to the army base. The next day, I was charged with going awol and put back in my old job. I didn't want to tell my colleagues what had happened, but when the army raised the charge to desertion – which can carry a sentence of up to 10 years – I decided to make a stand. I spoke to the papers, and in front of 500 people at a Stop the War meeting. The army were shocked. They just kept promising me I'd go to prison.

The sentencing took nine months, and in the meantime I built up a case with my lawyers on the legality of the conflict. It was clear the army didn't want a public examination because, all of a sudden, the charges for desertion were dropped.

In the end, I spent nine months in Colchester Military Corrective Training Centre.

I had massive support inside. I remember this big, scary commando coming over. I thought, uh-oh. He said, "You're that guy, aren't you? Good egg, good lad."

What happened to me isn't unusual: 11,000 have gone awol since 2003, but the army keep it quiet. The public needs to know because they're paying for courts martial and military prisons. They need to know why people are refusing to fight.

**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**

## 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

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**“The Root Causes Of Aisha’s  
Horrendous Experience Do Not  
Include A Lack Of Dead People  
In Afghanistan”**

**“Time Will Spew Statistics On How Neoliberalism, As It Drips From The Gutters Of Capitalism, Creates Opportunities For People Around The World”**

**“But For Which People?”**

**“For Those Who Already Had The Money And Power To Begin With, Sure”**



**And where has Time been all these years?**

**Where were they with their “cover girl” from Afghanistan during the years that the U.S. was backing the Taliban? What about a cover girl in 1973 from Chile? Or in 1987 from Nicaragua? Or in 2008 from Palestine? Or one from Saudi Arabia, pick a year, any year?**

August 9, 2010 By Nicole Bowmer, Readers Opinion, Socialist Worker

HAVE YOU seen the cover of Time magazine dated August 9, 2010? It's a memorable one.

WikiLeaks gave us over 90,000 pages of documents that detail atrocities no one learned about in the last decade from the cover of Time--or any other magazine or newspaper, for that matter.

In response, Time gave us one cover girl next to the headline "What happens if we leave Afghanistan."

This young woman has a hole in her face where her nose used to be.

For those who will take the time to read the article, they'll learn that her name is Aisha. She is 18 years old. Her nose and both ears were cut off by her husband after a verdict by a Taliban commander who wanted to use Aisha as an example to other girls should they follow her lead and run away from domestic abuse.

I can't help but wonder why they have this particular woman from Afghanistan on the cover during this particular month.

**And where has Time been all these years?**

**Where were they with their "cover girl" from Afghanistan during the years that the U.S. was backing the Taliban? What about a cover girl in 1973 from Chile? Or in 1987 from Nicaragua? Or in 2008 from Palestine? Or one from Saudi Arabia, pick a year, any year?**

The glaring omission throughout the cover article is that there is no critical analysis, no recognition, not even a single paragraph devoted to the role that oil reserves or natural gas supplies or minerals or strategic geographic locations or the toxic logic of capitalism play in the story of Aisha's life.

**Had there been no mention of the Taliban or Afghanistan in the article, someone might have mistakenly believed she lived on an island with nothing but pineapple grass bracelets available for export.**

**Yet if all that moved under the soil beneath Aisha's feet were tree roots and earthworms, she would be as unknown to us as the cover girls of Time we never saw.**

Following in the tradition of the Taliban, the editors of Time are using this young woman for their own purposes.

They're committing literary terrorism.

They'll deny it, of course. They're a distinguished news organization with a longstanding tradition of critical analysis dedicated to exposing the root causes of injustice around the world. Especially those eight memorable issues with Hitler as the cover boy. Those issues were the epitome of critical analysis.

**Time will spew statistics on how neoliberalism, as it drips from the gutters of capitalism, creates opportunities for people around the world.**

**But for which people?**

**For those who already had the money and power to begin with, sure.**

But for the rest (meaning most) of the world, what free-market policies, trade agreements, global financial institutions and profit-at-all-costs do best is erode the rights of people.

They erode the political rights of people to hold their leaders accountable to the needs of local communities. They erode the civil rights of people to equality and due process. They erode the industrial rights of people to safe and democratic workplaces. They erode the social rights of people to clean water, nutritious food and safe shelter.

What's a family or tribe or town to do when they don't have a say in their present or their future?

**Time was so eager, so very eager, to focus on Islamic fundamentalism in Aisha's story. Yet they never mentioned the role of economic fundamentalism that erodes the stability and security of communities to the point that people will grasp all the more tightly to whatever is within reach.**

**The Koran in some countries.**

**The Bible in others.**

Time even admitted that Afghanistan wasn't always like this. Just 40 years ago, it was a place where in the cities "girls wore jeans to the university and fashionable women went to parties sporting Chanel miniskirts."

So why this young woman from Afghanistan? Why now?

**Because millions of people around the world have 90,000 pages of additional evidence that show that the emperors not only have no clothes, the emperors have no common sense.**

Time is banking on our individual and collective conscience, our shared humanity, to look at Aisha's face and believe that we are helping the people of Afghanistan by staying the course.

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**SO HOW do we, the people, stand in solidarity with the people of Afghanistan?**

**How do we, the people, prove we are allies in their struggle for self-determination, for the right to decide their present and their future?**

**We begin by recognizing that the root causes of Aisha's horrendous experience do not include a lack of dead people in Afghanistan.**

**And then we admit that staying the course insures one thing: more dead people. More dead moms, dads and children from the U.S., Britain, and Afghanistan.**

**What the root causes of Aisha's story do include are poverty and economic fundamentalism.**

Corporations, economic policies and a capitalist system that prioritizes profit over all else is not the answer. A system that will burn grain because it can't be sold at a profit instead of feeding people with that grain is not the answer.

**Governments continuing to fund U.S. and British soldiers to stay the course in Afghanistan will insure the one thing that soldiers have always insured, whether in Chile or Nicaragua or India or Iraq: safe passage for the rich and powerful to profit from natural resources, leaving the local people as poor as they ever were.**

"What's our oil doing under their soil?" my neighbor's bumper sticker wants to know. That's a good question. There are organizations working with the people of Afghanistan to meet the needs of the people of Afghanistan. The Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA) is one such organization. Mercy Corps is another.

One critical component of any antiwar movement must include recognizing the common sense fact that our emperors don't: social change isn't real social change when it's pounded into you with missiles and machine guns.

Another good question: What else could we be supporting with the \$130,000 per minute that we're currently spending on atrocities in Afghanistan? Add on an additional \$130,000 per minute for Iraq. That's \$260,000 per minute.

Depending on how fast you read, we could have purchased a couple of homes for the homeless by now. Instead, we destroyed who knows how many homes, who knows how many families.

**What happens if we leave Afghanistan?**

**Time must not want us to think critically about that possibility because they didn't pose it as a question on their cover.**

**What happens if our corporations leave Afghanistan? What happens if our economic policies leave Afghanistan? What happens if the people of Afghanistan benefit from the resources under their soil instead of U.S. and European companies?**

**What happens if the people of Afghanistan self-determine their present and their future with true democracy, not the propped-up version that offers only corrupt options?**

**Time can't ask those questions. Time would be out of business if it did.**

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**August 14, 1980:**

# **Polish Workers Strike Against Dictatorship: “They Had Illusions In The Army, And Did Not Make Any Serious Effort To Win Over Rank-And-File Soldiers”**



After months of labor turmoil, more than 16,000 Polish workers seized control of the Lenin Shipyards in Gdansk.

Carl Bunin Peace History August 13-19 [Excerpts]

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9 August 2000 BY CHRIS SLEE, Green Left Weekly [Excerpts]

Twenty years ago, on August 14, a strike began at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk, Poland, which led to the birth of the independent Solidarity trade union movement. This movement went on to play a crucial and contradictory role in the restoration of capitalist rule in Poland at end of the 1980s.

The initial issues that sparked the shipyards strike were wages and the sacking of a militant worker, Anna Walentinowicz. The strike quickly spread to other workplaces, reflecting the widespread discontent with the system of bureaucratic “socialism” established in Poland in the late 1940s.

The authorities were forced to negotiate and, in an agreement signed at Gdansk on August 31, conceded a list of demands including the right to form independent trade unions. Solidarity was formally established as a trade union on September 17.

Solidarity developed into a mass social movement challenging Poland's Stalinist regime. It was violently suppressed in December 1981 when martial law was declared by General Jaruzelski, who held the posts of Communist Party first secretary, prime minister and defence minister.

Remnants of the movement continued to organise illegally, re-emerging into legality in the late 1980s. The movement was then converted into a right-wing political party which won the elections in June 1989 and formed a government that set out to restore capitalism.

How did a movement that grew out of a working-class struggle against Stalinism become an agent of capitalist restoration?

Part of the answer lies in the ideological limitations of the leadership. Lech Walesa, the main leader of the Gdansk strike and subsequently the central leader of the union, was a militant worker, but also a socially conservative Catholic. The same was true of many other working-class activists in the union. The striking workers at Gdansk sang hymns and held mass in the shipyard.

Religious beliefs do not necessarily prevent political leaders from playing a progressive role. But the fact that the dominant section of Solidarity's leadership belonged to a church committed to the defence of private property, and hailed its right-wing social teachings, was a problem. It became an even bigger problem when this leadership became the government of Poland and began to implement those teachings.

Another component of Solidarity's leadership was a group of intellectuals who had been active in KOR (the Committee for the Defence of the Workers), an organisation that had carried out solidarity with workers' struggles during the 1970s.

The key figure in this group was Jacek Kuron. In the 1960s he and Karol Modzelewski had called for the seizure of power by the working class. But by the time Solidarity was formed, Kuron had modified his ideas, replacing the perspective of revolutionary overthrow of the Stalinist bureaucracy with one of gradually reforming the state under pressure from mass organisations and struggles.

At that time, Kuron's perspective was still one of reforming the socialist state rather than restoring capitalism. Pressure for reform came mainly from Solidarity, which was then a mass workers' movement imbued with the idea that workers were entitled to control the factories and play a leading role in society.

But after this movement was crushed by Jaruzelski's repression, Solidarity's leadership (including both its Catholic and "leftist" components) adopted a perspective of capitalist restoration. (Kuron himself later became minister of labour in Walesa's pro-capitalist government). The adoption of a policy of capitalist restoration by Solidarity's leadership was made easier by the confused political outlook of most Solidarity activists.



During 1980-81, Solidarity grew to include 10 million members. The consciousness of the activists was mixed. They fought for immediate economic demands (e.g., wage rises) and democratic demands (e.g., freedom of speech). They also struggled for control of the factories, in many cases voting the factory directors out of office and replacing them with new ones.

These demands and struggles represented a progressive response to Stalinist bureaucratic rule. Yet there were also some less progressive elements in the workers' consciousness.

In addition to the socially conservative attitudes promoted by the Catholic church, many workers were impressed by the relative prosperity and democratic rights existing in the advanced capitalist countries and failed to see that the prosperity and freedom of a few imperialist countries is based on the exploitation and repression of people in the Third World.

Not understanding imperialism, they failed to solidarise with Third World struggles for national liberation. While expressing a general sympathy with workers everywhere, most did not take much interest in workers' struggles in the West. Solidarity's newspaper had hardly any international news.

Solidarity lacked a clear program and strategy for overthrowing the bureaucratic regime and creating a democratic worker-ruled society. The organisation's draft program made reference to socialism as one source of inspiration, along with Christianity and democracy.

Solidarity activists carried out a struggle for self-management in many workplaces, but did not have a clear understanding of the need for socialist planning.

**They had illusions in the army, and did not make any serious effort to win over rank-and-file soldiers.**

While Solidarity was not a consciously socialist organisation, neither was it consciously anti-socialist. As British academic Martin Myant observed in Poland: a Crisis for Socialism (1982): "It advocated equality and was particularly emphatic about the need for an adequate assured minimum income and an end to special privileges for a wealthy minority. Many of the specific demands were, even if the authors of the program avoided making the point, quite incompatible with capitalism."

**During 1980-81, neither the government nor the leadership of Solidarity could have carried out a program of capitalist restoration, even if they had wanted to.**

**This was because the workers would not have allowed it. Workers in the factories were attempting to bring the enterprises under their own control, and would not have accepted handing them over to capitalist owners.**

**The crushing of this working-class upsurge created the conditions in which capitalist restoration could be carried out with little resistance a few years later. In the demoralisation following martial law, pro-capitalist attitudes were able to become dominant in Polish society.**

Today, there is a lot of discontent with the results of the restoration of capitalism in Poland and other former Stalinist-ruled states, but still no mass revolutionary parties with a clear socialist perspective.

A mass upsurge of working class and popular discontent is necessary but not sufficient.

A struggle to win the movement to a clear socialist perspective is necessary.

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## **OCCUPATION HAITI**

# **Led By The Brazilian Wanna-Be Imperial Government: Six Years And Counting**

August 12, 2010 Charlie Hinton, Haiti Action Committee, Socialist Worker [Excerpt]

TO CUT to the chase, no election in Haiti, and no candidate in those elections, will be considered legitimate by the majority of Haiti's population, unless the election includes the full and fair participation of the Fanmi Lavalas Party of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Fanmi Lavalas is unquestionably the most popular party in the country, yet the "international community," led by the United States, France and Canada, has done everything possible to undermine Aristide and Lavalas, overthrowing him twice by military coups in 1991 and 2004, and banishing Aristide, who now lives in South Africa with his family, from the Americas.

**A United Nations army, led by Brazil, still occupies Haiti six years after the coup.**

**Its unstated mission, under the name of "peacekeeping," is to suppress the popular movement and prevent the return to power of Aristide's Lavalas Party.**

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## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

# **When 5 Minutes Become 5 Seconds:**

From: Mazin Qumsiyeh

To: [palestinianamericancongress@lists.riseup.net](mailto:palestinianamericancongress@lists.riseup.net)

Subject: First Friday of Ramadan: the 5 second that is five minutes

Date: Aug 13, 2010

[Excerpts]

On the first Friday of Ramadan, thousands of Palestinians tried to reach the Haram Al-Sharif in Jerusalem for prayers in Al-Aqsa mosque. But only some men above 50 and some women above 45 year old were allowed to enter through the checkpoints in the apartheid wall.

Some of those left behind participated in demonstrations.

Al-Walaja demonstration was particularly inspiring and faced the might of the apartheid system. The Apartheid wall here is being built to surround Al-Walaja on all sides. We marched from the mosque towards the village entrance and along the main road; here the wall facing Al-Walaja village is ugly concrete and the side of it facing the illegal colony of Har Gilo is decorated with Jerusalem stone.

We stopped at the village entrance as planned, beat drums and chanted things like "1234 Occupation no more... 5678 stop the stealing stop the hate", several military and police vehicles and dozens of heavily armed apartheid warriors prepared to attack us.

Ali chanted in Arabic, I spoke in English, and then Ali spoke in Hebrew. We addressed the gathering and the soldiers telling them this was a peaceful demonstration against land confiscation. We explained that this village lost 80% of its land in 1948 and is now about to lose the rest.

**The officers came and gave us five minutes to disperse but then started attacking us within five seconds with stun grenades and tear gas.**

They arrested Ali Al-Aaraj and then they ran into the nearby house and arrested his cousin Ma'moun (who was not participating in the demonstration) . Some colonial racist settlers showed up with an Israeli flag and waved it and cheered their storm troops on.

They also violently attacked people injuring several (I personally saw them toss a man down against a concrete wall injuring him in the leg). Those abducted were released a few hours later thanks to good legal support.

**[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."]**

**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.**

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



### **Terrorist Vermin Employed By City Of Los Angeles Attack Family Birthday Party:**

**“A Number Of Children Who Had  
Been Put In A Bedroom With The  
Permission Of The Police Were Later  
Removed And Had To Walk Through  
Broken Glass With Bare Feet”**

**“They Took Him Outside And They Just  
Got Him From His Head, And Started  
Banging His Head Against The Wall”**

**Ultimately, seven members of the Baro family and two friends were charged with assault with a deadly weapon and lesser charges, including resisting arrest, according to Elida Baro. However, the police reported no guns or weapons seized at the scene of the birthday-party melee.**

July 27, 2010 By Dennis Bernstein, Daily Censored.com/ [Excerpts]

The Los Angeles Police Department's Foothill Division, made famous by the videotaped beating of Rodney King almost two decades ago, has been caught in action again – this time on a cell-phone video – breaking up a family birthday party in Pacoima, California.

The Baro family of Mexican immigrants was celebrating the 22nd birthday of Walter Baro on July 17 when the incident began.

Two LAPD officers arrived shortly after midnight claiming they had received noise complaints from a neighbor.

According to Walter Baro's 26-year-old sister, Elida, there was a brief exchange at the front door and the police ordered them to end the party and send their 70 guests packing.

**“We went outside and spoke to the cops,” said Elida Baro in an interview. “They said you have to turn off the music because we have received several calls. So we said okay, if that’s what we have to do, that’s what we have to do.”**

Her father asked what the penalty would be for a noise complaint and was told the ticket could be \$1,500 or more, Elida Baro said, adding:

**“So then my Dad said, ‘okay, we’ll tell everyone to leave but most of the people that are here are extended family, they are going to be staying, not everybody is going to be coming out.’”**

**At that, the officer got mad, she said, and began cursing at her father, demanding that everybody get out of the house in 30 seconds.**

**Elida Baro said her father responded by saying, “you know, what, I’m in my house, I know you are doing your job, but you don’t have to speak to me like that. I’m not disrespecting you, so you don’t disrespect me.”**

**At that point, the officer announced that he was going to call for “back-up” and that everybody had to leave the house, she said.**

**“So, my Dad, said ‘okay, we’re going inside, we’re taking everybody out, but just calm down.’ That’s when the other cop said, ‘okay, now you have 20 seconds. We’ll give you 20 seconds to take everybody out.’”**

The police apparently were intent on keeping their word.

**Almost instantaneously, dozens of police, including a heavily armed SWAT team with a surveillance helicopter circling overhead, swung into action.**

**“They were very aggressive and it wasn’t called for,” said Walter Baro. “I was walking inside the house and it didn’t even take ... a minute when already the helicopter came and there was about 30 officers walking in with their batons and their SWAT gear. And they just had me hitting me with the baton on my arm.”**

**“Like 20 cops came inside my house,” said Elida Baro. “They broke the doors. ... They dropped my brother and I just started screaming, ‘leave him alone, you have him handcuffed. Leave him alone.’ So one cop came up to me and he put the baton in front of my face and he said, ‘Shut the.. ‘ You know bad words. ...**

**“And then my elder brother, the one that’s 28, he just stood up in front of me and said ‘Don’t hit her, just leave my sister alone.’ So that’s when I turned around, and as I was turning around I just heard, ‘Get the one in the brown shirt.’**

**“And I looked back; my brother was wearing a brown shirt. They grabbed him, they handcuffed him, they took him outside and they just got him from his head, and started banging his head against the wall. ...**

“Meanwhile, they were trying to get my cousin’s camera, the only video that we rescued, the one that’s on You Tube. They were calling him to come outside because they wanted to get the camera.”

Elida Baro said police seized other cell-phone and video recordings of the event and erased them; however, the one that survived is now posted on You Tube under the heading, “Family Party Aftermath with LAPD.”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8U5HjUkK3A>

The blurry cell phone video shows a force of police officers in the house amid a mixture of screams, groans and mass confusion among the partygoers on how to leave.

At least two police officers were swinging a baton at a guest.

**Elida Baro also complained that a number of children who had been put in a bedroom with the permission of the police were later removed and had to walk through broken glass with bare feet.**

“They were in the main bedroom, my parent’s bedroom,” she said. “We didn’t want them to hear what was going on, or see what was going on. So it was my little brother, cousins, friends that we just put them inside the room, we just told them stay here, don’t come out.

**“But then an officer just went inside and he said, ‘Get the...’ using bad words, ‘...Out, out, out. Everybody out.’ ...**

**“My little cousin walked through the glass, he cut his feet. ... He couldn’t stand the pain; there was a point that he was crawling. It was hurting so bad. They didn’t care.”**

Walter Baro, his father and seven others were arrested and more than 20 were allegedly roughed up.

**Ultimately, seven members of the Baro family and two friends were charged with assault with a deadly weapon and lesser charges, including resisting arrest, according to Elida Baro.**

**However, the police reported no guns or weapons seized at the scene of the birthday-party melee.**

Some of those arrested were released on their own recognizance; others were released on bails of up to \$50,000.

The Baro family, which has filed complaints of police brutality against the LAPD, asserted that they were racially profiled and that the LAPD's invasion of the birthday party was premeditated.

"The helicopter was already surrounding my house," said Elida Baro. "It wasn't even 20 seconds, 30 seconds ... after they first came. It was like they had their team ... just around the corner."

But even though the birthday partygoers were attempting to evacuate the house and leave the area, the police stormed in anyway, she said. "As you see on the video, they (the police) started pushing people."

Six days after the incident and shortly after it became known that there was a cell-phone video on You Tube, the police issued a statement, saying "The LAPD's Internal Affairs Group is conducting an investigation. Part of that investigation will include a review of videos that may have been taken of the incident, interviews of involved parties and available evidence."

The July 23 statement also revealed "LAPD's Foothill Division received a number of calls that same evening and interviewed people who attended the party and complained about the actions of the officers including excessive force."

As a result of the incident, Elida Baro said she will never be able to rest peacefully in her own house; she will always fear that the police may come at any time and turn her life upside down without reason or justification. She also felt there was a racial component.

"Most of them were white," she said. "In their faces you could see their hate towards, I don't know if it's just us Mexicans or Latinos. You could just see the cop in the video taking out his rage against everybody, you could see the hate in his face and he was just hitting because, I guess, that's what he wanted to do. For us it was an act of racism towards us?"

She said she felt powerless to do anything on behalf of her father and two brothers as they were being roughed up by armed police.

"It's really hard, screaming to them and telling them to stop kicking my brother, just feeling I couldn't do anything," Elida Baro said. "I couldn't do anything. They weren't listening to me. They got my two brothers and my dad."

“My dad has diabetes, they dropped him to the floor, they put their knee in my dad’s head. And one of the cops just came by and kicked him when he was already handcuffed. ...

“Today I was just listening to my little brother, he’s 10 years old, and he’s telling me, ‘I’m scared of the cops.’

He wakes up in the middle of the night now and goes to my parent’s room and asks is everything okay, because he’s scared that something like this might happen again.”

**MORE: FROM 2008 BUT VERY PERTINENT:**

**KopBusters Catch Texas Vermin  
Raiding A House, After Swearing  
Christmas Trees Are Marijuana  
Plants:  
“Kops Lie On The Affidavit Claiming A  
Confidential Informant Saw The Plants  
And/Or The Police Could Smell  
Marijuana Coming From The Suspected  
House”**

December 6, 2008 & By Stephen C. Webster, Rawstory.com/ [Excerpts]

Barry Cooper, a former Texas police officer with eight years of specialty in drug interdiction, first made waves when he released the film “Never Get Busted Again,” a how-to guide for evading police drug seizures.

Austin, Texas-based Cooper’s latest project is not nearly so benign, and will likely generate for the former drug warrior an army of enemies in law enforcement.

‘KopBusters’ is a reality TV program that aims to sink crooked officers.

“KopBusters rented a house in Odessa, Texas and began growing two small Christmas trees under a grow light similar to those used for growing marijuana,” claims a release from NeverGetBusted.com.

“When faced with a suspected marijuana grow, the police usually use illegal FLIR cameras and/or lie on the search warrant affidavit claiming they have probable cause to raid the house.



**Instead of conducting a proper investigation which usually leads to no probable cause, the Kops lie on the affidavit claiming a confidential informant saw the plants and/or the police could smell marijuana coming from the suspected house.”**

**“The trap was set and less than 24 hours later, the Odessa narcotics unit raided the house only to find KopBuster’s attorney waiting under a system of complex gadgetry and spy cameras that streamed online to the KopBuster’s secret mobile office nearby.**

**“The attorney was handcuffed and later released when eleven KopBuster detectives arrived with the media in tow to question the illegal raid.**

**The police refused to give KopBusters the search warrant affidavit which is suspected to contain the lies regarding the probable cause.**

**“It is not illegal to grow plants under a light in your home but it is illegal to lie on an affidavit and plant drugs on a citizen. This operation was the first of its kind in the history of America.**

**Police sometimes have other police investigating their crimes but the American court system has never dealt with a group of citizens stinging the police. Will the police file charges on the team who took down the corrupt cops? We will keep you posted.”**

**Cooper’s “Never Get Busted Again” was a runaway success, the sales of which serve as financial support for this most recent project.**

**“The drug war is a failed policy and the legal side effects on the families are worse than the drugs,” Cooper said to the Dallas Observer in early 2007.**

**“I was so wrong in the things I did back then. I ruined lives.”**

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## **Columbia U Research Finds Body Scanners “Will Likely Contribute To An Increase In A Common Type Of Skin Cancer Called Basal Cell Carcinoma”**

**“The Population Risk Has The Potential To Be Significant”**

# **“There Really Is No Other Technology Around Where We’re Planning To X-Ray Such An Enormous Number Of Individuals. It’s Really Unprecedented In The Radiation World”**

June 29, 2010 Paul Joseph Watson, Prison Planet.com

**Airport body scanners could lead to an increase in skin cancers according to scientists at Columbia University, who warn that the dose emitted by the naked x-ray devices could be up to 20 times higher than originally estimated, in another clear example of how the scanners are completely illegal, dangerous to public health, and need to be removed immediately.**

**Dr David Brenner, head of Columbia University’s centre for radiological research, warns that children and people with gene mutations whose bodies are less able to repair damage to their DNA are most at risk.**

“If all 800 million people who use airports every year were screened with X-rays then the very small individual risk multiplied by the large number of screened people might imply a potential public health or societal risk. The population risk has the potential to be significant,” said Brenner.

Brenner’s research shows that the scanners will likely contribute to an increase in a common type of skin cancer called basal cell carcinoma which affects the head and neck.

“If there are increases in cancers as a result of irradiation of children, they would most likely appear some decades in the future. It would be prudent not to scan the head and neck,” added Brenner.

Brenner has urged medical authorities to look at his work, pointing to the dangerous notion of mass scanning millions of people without proper oversight.

“There really is no other technology around where we’re planning to X-ray such an enormous number of individuals. It’s really unprecedented in the radiation world,” said Brenner.

**Similar concerns to those explored in the Columbia University study were voiced back in February by the influential Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety, who warned in a report that the scanners increase the risk of cancer and birth defects and should not be used on pregnant women or children.**

Despite governments claiming that backscatter x-ray systems produce radiation too low to pose a threat, the organization concluded in their report that governments must justify

the use of the scanners and that a more accurate assessment of the health risks is needed.

**Pregnant women and children should not be subject to scanning, according to the report, adding that governments should consider “other techniques to achieve the same end without the use of ionizing radiation.”**

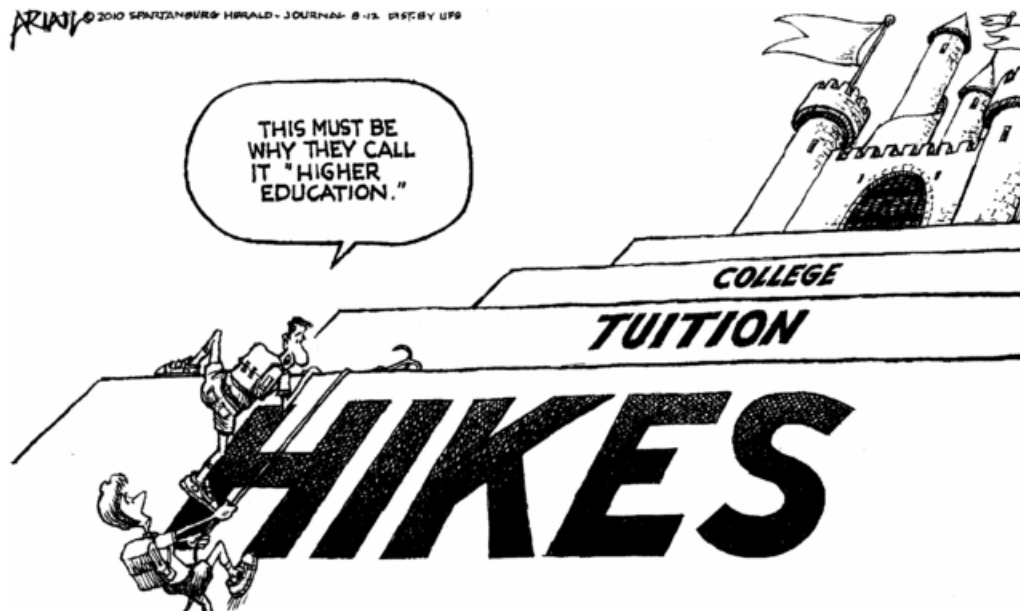
**“The Committee cited the IAEA’s 1996 Basic Safety Standards agreement, drafted over three decades, that protects people from radiation. Frequent exposure to low doses of radiation can lead to cancer and birth defects, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,” reported Bloomberg.**

In the United States, people can refuse the body scanner and opt for an aggressive and intrusive hand-search, but people traveling out of the UK and other areas of Europe don’t even get the choice – they are forced to go through the scanner if asked and cannot refuse or they are banned from traveling.

Despite the media reporting universal acceptance of the scanners, in reality 600 formal complaints had been made about the devices in the first two months of their usage alone.

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## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**



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**“Worst Job Creation Record Since 1928  
To 1938”**

August 9, 2010 By BOB HERBERT, The New York Times [Excerpts]

Charles McMillion, the president and chief economist of MBG Information Services in Washington, is an expert on employment and has been looking closely for years at the issue of labor force participation. "Over the past three months," he said, "1,155,000 unemployed people dropped out of the active labor force and were not counted as unemployed."

Even ignoring population growth, if these unemployed had not dropped out of the labor force, simple arithmetic shows that the official unemployment rate would have risen from 9.9 percent in April to 10.2 percent in July, rather than — as it has — fallen to 9.5 percent."

**Said Mr. McMillion: "When you combine the long-term unemployed with those who are dropping out and those who are working part-time because they can't find anything else, it is just far beyond anything we've seen in the job market since the 1930s."**

With 14.6 million people officially jobless, and 5.9 million who have stopped looking but say they want a job, and 8.5 million who are working part time but would like to work full time, you end up with nearly 30 million Americans who cannot find the work they want and desperately need.

We've got more and more people in our working-age population and fewer and fewer jobs to go around. Mr. McMillion tells us that there are now 3.4 million fewer private-sector jobs in the U.S. than there were a decade ago. In the last 10 years, we've seen the worst job creation record since 1928 to 1938.

We're not heading toward the danger zone. We're there.

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



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

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

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