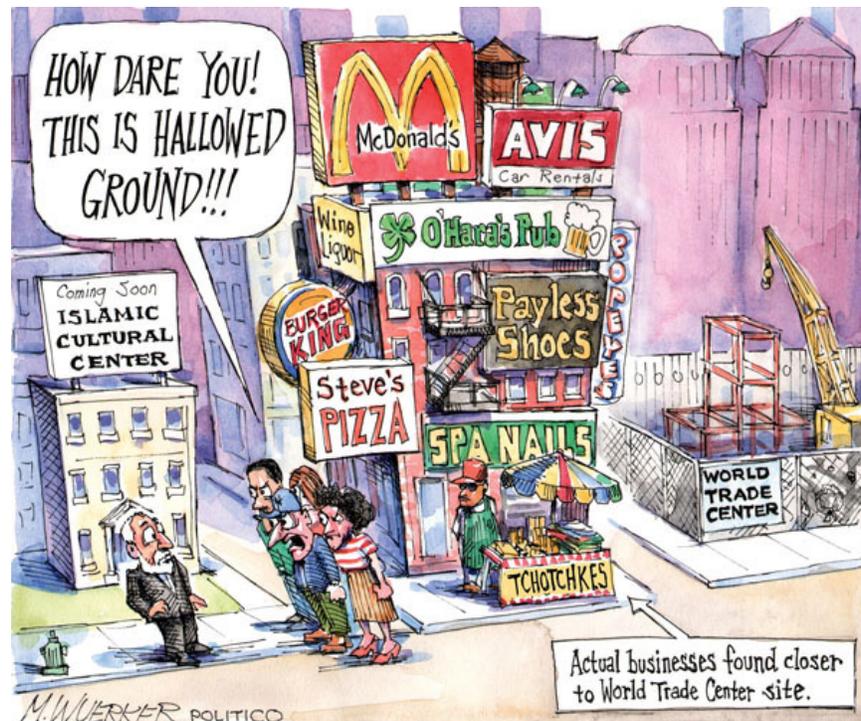


Military Resistance 8H18



American Opposition To Iraq, Afghanistan Wars Reaches All Time High:

“Unpopularity With The War In
Afghanistan Also Reached An All-
Time High In CNN Polling With 62
Percent Saying They Oppose It”

“A Majority Believe That The U.S. Will
Never Achieve Its Goals In Iraq “No
Matter How Long Troops Remain There”

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

August 17th, 2010 CNN

Two-thirds of Americans favor President Obama's plan to remove combat troops from Iraq by the end of the month as opposition to the war in that country, as well as the one in Afghanistan, has climbed to new highs.

According to a new CNN/Opinion Research Corp. survey, Obama's withdrawal plan wins support not because Americans think the U.S. has achieved its goals in Iraq - only three in 10 feel that way - but because a majority believe that the U.S. will never achieve its goals in that country no matter how long troops remain there.

That's one reason why 69 percent oppose the war in Iraq - the highest amount of opposition in any CNN poll.

Americans are also pessimistic about what will happen next in Iraq after combat troops are removed but don't feel the same way about what might occur in the U.S. Six in 10 say they are not confident in the Iraqi government's ability to handle the situation in that country.

But only 28 percent say that removing U.S. troops from the country increases the chances of a terrorist attack on U.S. soil.

Unpopularity with the war in Afghanistan also reached an all-time high in CNN polling with 62 percent saying they oppose it.

Moreover, confidence in the Afghan government is even lower than it is for the Iraqi government. Seven in 10 Americans are not confident that Hamid Karzai's government can handle the situation there.

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Basra

Aug 22 (Reuters) & ICC

BASRA - A U.S. soldier was killed by hostile fire while conducting military operations in Basra province, 420 km (260 miles) south of Baghdad, the U.S. military said in a statement.

Palmyra Man Killed In Iraq

August 18, 2010 By: DAVID LEVINSKY, Burlington County Times

PALMYRA - A soldier from Palmyra was killed during an insurgent grenade attack on his vehicle in Iraq.

The body of 24-year-old Army Spc. Jamal M. Rhett arrived at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware on Tuesday, where the plane was met by his mother and other family members.

He is believed to be the 14th person from Burlington County or with county ties to die in Iraq or Afghanistan since those conflicts began.

"He was my knight in shining armor," his mother, Michelle Watson, said Tuesday after arriving home from Dover. "I not only loved him as a son, but I liked him. We had such a wonderful relationship as a mother and son."

The U.S. Department of Defense did not specify when or where in Iraq the attack occurred but said Rhett died Sunday. He was serving his second tour of duty in Iraq as a combat medic with 25th Infantry Division based out of Schofield Barracks in Hawaii.

Division spokesman Lt. Col. Sean Wilson said Rhett's unit deployed to Iraq in early July and the attack occurred near the city Baquba, which is located northeast of Baghdad.

Rhett was believed to be the only casualty from the attack.

"He was a valued soldier. The 25th is a small one in a lot of ways so this loss affects all of us," Wilson said. "He might not have had family here (in Hawaii) but we were like family. His death is like losing a brother."

Family members said Rhett originally lived in Philadelphia but moved to Palmyra with his mother at age 11. He attended borough schools and went to the Burlington County Institute of Technology's Westampton Campus for high school, graduating in 2003. He attended Bloomfield College before enlisting in the Army.

Officials at BCIT and Bloomfield said they were saddened to learn of Rhett's death. "Westampton's principal was this young man's social studies teacher and remembered him as a very respectful young man," said BCIT Superintendent Dolores Szymanski. "It's

so sad because here we are soon to pull out (of Iraq) and he gets caught in the end. It's sad for our entire community."

Bloomfield College spokeswoman Jill Alexander said the college planned to fly its flag at half staff for the next several days in Rhett's honor. "We want to remember him and honor his family and his sacrifice," Alexander said.

Watson said her son decided to enlist in the Army after his maternal grandmother's death. She said the two were very close and she suspected he wanted to honor her by joining the service.

She said her last conversation with Rhett involved the prospects of earning a promotion to sergeant soon.

"He was excited about it," Watson said. "He told me he went before the (review) board and things went well and that all he had to do was take a few more correspondent courses and he'd become a sergeant. It was great news."

Rhett's aunt, Sonya Winters, described him as a funny and loving nephew who kept in close contact with his mother and family via phone and Facebook.

She said he preferred not to talk about the war.

"He told me once that he had seen something he never wanted to see again, but he didn't go into details," Winters said. "He thought he was going back to Hawaii but they ordered him back (to Iraq)."

She said her last words to him were Thursday after they talked about a party she was planning for his 19-year-old cousin before he went off to college.

"He congratulated me and told me to give his best to everyone," she said. "Like always, he told me he had to get some sleep, but he said he loved us and would talk to us later."

Watson was informed of her son's death Sunday afternoon. She said the trip to Dover was emotional but that she was glad she went. "There's a feeling of honor and glory even," she said.

Funeral arrangements were still pending Tuesday. Winters said her family was trying to cope with the loss as best as possible.

"We're just trying to support each other," Winters said. "He was a real great guy who kept you laughing, and he loved his family."

Palmyra Mayor Bob Gural said Rhett was believed to be the first Palmyra resident to die in the recent overseas conflicts. "We've had many fine young men who served, but this is the first casualty," he said. "I didn't know him personally, but I understand he was a gentleman. It's hard to take." He said the borough would pursue some type of formal action to honor Rhett's service and sacrifice.

Resistance Action

Aug 21 (Reuters) & KUNA & Aug 22 (Reuters) & AP

KIRKUK - A sticky bomb attached to a car killed an off-duty policeman in southern Kirkuk, police said.

MOSUL - Insurgents opened fire at an Iraqi police checkpoint, killing one policeman and wounding another, in eastern Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents using silencers killed an off-duty police officer while he was driving his car in the Harthiya district of western Baghdad on Friday evening, police said.

BAQUBA - Insurgents shot dead a government-backed Sahwa militia leader in western Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, on Friday evening, police said.

A sticky bomb attached to a car wounded an employee of the Badr organisation, the armed wing of the U.S.-friendly Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council, an Interior Ministry source said.

A source in the Iraqi police told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that an explosive device went off as a army patrol drove between Mosul and Hammam Al-Alil. The explosion killed one soldier, and injured four others.

Meanwhile a confrontation between armed militants and the Iraqi police in Bab Al-Bayth, western Mosul resulted in the killing of a police officer and the injury of another, said the source.

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Four U.S. Soldiers Killed Sunday

8.22.10 AFP

Four US soldiers were killed Sunday while fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan.

The four American troopers died in three separate incidents, in eastern and southern Afghanistan.

Spokesman US Air Force Master Sergeant Jason Haag confirmed all four were Americans.

Two of the soldiers were killed in the same incident in eastern Afghanistan, while the other two died in separate incidents in the south -- one in an insurgent attack, the other after an attack with a makeshift bomb.

Three U.S. “Service Members” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Friday And Saturday

Aug 21 (Reuters)

Two U.S. service members died Saturday and another was killed Friday in insurgent attacks in southern Afghanistan. NATO did not disclose details about their deaths.

Two Australian Soldiers Killed By IED In Baluchi Valley, Two More Wounded

Aug 21, 2010 ABC

The Defence Force has confirmed two Australian soldiers have been killed and two others wounded by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan.

Private Grant Kirby, 35, and Private Tomas Dale, 21, were killed when an improvised explosive device (IED) went off while they were overseeing an Afghan army patrol in the Baluchi Valley.

The men, attached to the 1st Mentoring Taskforce, were outside their Bushmaster armoured vehicle at the time of the blast. The wounded men were inside the vehicle.

The incident occurred on Friday at 10:30am (local time).

They were from the Brisbane-based 6th Battalion Royal Australian Regiment.

The two soldiers wounded in the explosion were flown to a military hospital in Tarin Kowt. Their injuries are not life-threatening.

Grand Ledge Soldier Killed In Afghanistan

August 11. 2010 Francis X. Donnelly, The Detroit News

Grand Ledge -- When Brad Rappuhn tried something new, he jumped into it with both legs and both arms.

Paintball, drumming, disc golf, it didn't matter. He wanted to be the best, said friends.

So, when he joined the military last year, he became a vaunted Army Ranger.

And that's how his life ended Sunday, when a roadside bomb in Afghanistan killed him and another soldier, Sgt. Andrew Nicol, 23, of Kensington, N.H.

"He didn't do anything half-heartedly," said friend Dennis Thompson, 24, of Grand Ledge. "He pushed it to the max."

The two deaths are part of the burgeoning toll of a war that recently finished its deadliest month. At least 66 U.S. troops died in July, breaking a record that was set one month earlier.

Rappuhn, 24, who hailed from this Lansing suburb, is the 11th Michigianian to die this year during the Afghanistan war.

It was his second bombing in two months.

The first, on Memorial Day, left him with shrapnel in his body, said relatives.

This was his first deployment. It was supposed to end in late July, but the military extended it 45 days, said his mother, Roxanne.

But she wasn't bitter about the decision. Brad understood the danger he faced and was ready to pay the consequences, she said.

"I'm proud of him," she said.

The two men were killed by an improvised explosive device in the Kandahar Province, where some of the heaviest fighting of the nine-year war has taken place, according to the Defense Department.

After neighbors learned about the death, they posted miniature flags along his block.

Friends created a Facebook page honoring him. By Tuesday night, 189 people had joined it.

Typical of the messages was one left by Allison Mandley, a former coworker at the A&W restaurant in Grand Ledge.

"You were the nicest guy with a friendly and caring attitude towards everyone," she wrote. "Thanks for being a hero."

Family and friends remembered him as a practical joker whose frequent smile lit up a room.

Gloria Hendrix recalled the Christmas her friend brought her hamsters, knowing fully well how skittish she was of the hairy beasts.

"He's in heaven looking down on us all and laughing," said Hendrix, 26, of Potterville.

Friends also remembered his little kindnesses, like trying to make them feel better by telling dumb jokes or helping them sneak into a party.

He seemed happiest when he took his black Labrador, Bill, and repaired to the local park to play disc golf, they said. He was so good at the sport that he once scored a hole in one.

Thompson said his friend died the way he lived, by trying to be the best. "I don't think he had any regrets," he said. "He was living life to the fullest."

Two Australian Soldiers Severely Wounded By Afghan Bomb

8.22.2010

Another two soldiers from Australia's 1st Mentoring Taskforce have been wounded by an improvised explosive device (IED) in Afghanistan.

The Defence Department says the soldiers are in a satisfactory condition after being seriously wounded on Saturday (local time) when the IED detonated near their Bushmaster armoured vehicle in the Baluchi Valley region of Uruzgan Province.

Mentoring Task Force Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Mark Jennings said the soldiers were treated at the scene before being evacuated to a nearby ISAF medical facility for further treatment.

Afghan Collaborator Police & More Civilians Butchered By Occupation Air Attacks

Aug 21 (Reuters) & By DEB RIECHMANN, The Associated Press

In the north, Afghan security forces, who were under fire from an unknown number of insurgents, called for air support Friday in Darzab district of Jowzjan province, NATO said. Two helicopters responded and fired a hellfire missile and 30 millimeter rounds, it

said. An investigation of the site later showed that three members of the Afghan National Police were accidentally killed and several more were wounded by the air weapons team, the coalition said.

FARAH - Two children and a woman were killed accidentally in U.S. air strike targeting Taliban fighters in western Farah province on Friday.

Resistance Action: Six Police Killed “In A Mysterious Way”

August 20, 2010 By Amir Shah and Mirwais Khan, Associated Press & Aug 21 (Reuters) & 8.22.10 by Usman Sharifi Usman Sharifi, AFP

At least 6 police soldiers were killed Saturday morning in the southwestern Helmand province. "A group of unknown gunmen entered a police checkpoint on Saturday morning in Gerishk district of Helmand province and killed the police soldiers in a mysterious way." Daud Ahmadi, a spokesman for the governor of Helmand, told TOLONews.

Officials in the southern insurgency hotspot of Kandahar said the second-in-command of security for the inter-provincial Kandahar-Uruzgan highway was shot dead early Sunday by unidentified gunmen. Unknown armed motorcyclists opened fire on the vehicle of Haji Abdul Wahid. He died on the spot," said Kandahar deputy police chief Mohammad Shah Farooqi, adding that the attackers escaped.

A roadside bomb in northern Afghanistan killed the leader of one of the new local police units the Afghan government is setting up across the country, ISAF said.

In the east, two Afghan civilians were killed and 14 wounded yesterday when a fuel truck exploded in the Bati Kot district of Nangarhar Province, the coalition said. The event was being investigated, but initial reports indicated an explosive device was the cause, NATO said.

Taliban insurgents captured a district chief in eastern Kunar province on Friday.

The brother of a candidate running for parliament in the western province of Herat was killed on Saturday in a Taliban attack. Abdul Hadi Jamshidi, the candidate, said: "I was speaking to a public gathering as part of my election campaign in Kushk Robat Sangi district when terrorists opened fire, killing my brother and wounding three of my guards."

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email contact@militaryproject.org

THE UNDOUBTED SUCCESS OF THE U.S. MILITARY EFFORT MAY BE SEEN HERE, SHOWING THE VAST QUANTITIES OF AFGHANISTAN THAT HAVE BEEN LIBERATED, AND WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR A NEW, FREE, DEMOCRATIC AFGHAN SOCIETY



Aug. 18, 2010: U.S. soldiers of the 101st Airborne Division patrol near Forward Operating Base Howz-e-Madad, in Zhari district, Kandahar province, southern Afghanistan. The 101st Airborne operates in a district which continues to hold many well-armed fighters, and a support network which provides the fighters with improvised explosives and safe havens. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

**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/>

MILITARY NEWS

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



Aug. 9, 2010: The casket of Lance Cpl. Shane R. Martin at Houston National Cemetery in Houston. The 23-year-old of Spring, Texas died July 29, 2010 after a roadside bomb exploded in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He had also been deployed to Iraq. Martin is survived by his wife Lauren who he married on July 4, 2008 as well as his mother and father Debora and Kevin Wallace, his brother Kyle and his sister Diane. (AP Photo/Houston Chronicle, Johnny Hanson)

**“It’s Really Embarrassing For Me
To Hear And Read What Our
Senior Leadership Is Saying About
Suicides In The Army”**

“They’re Not Even Looking At This Problem From The Lower-Enlisted-Soldier Level”

“You Also Have The Junior Officer Who’s Out To Make A Name For Himself At The Expense Of His Soldiers And Not Caring For Their Well-Being”

Letters To The Editor
Army Times
August 23, 2010

It’s really embarrassing for me to hear and read what our senior leadership is saying about suicides in the Army. These guys and gals are supposed to be America’s smartest, but they’re not even looking at this problem from the lower-enlisted-soldier level.

Where are the command sergeant majors and sergeant majors?

I’ll tell you. They’re out doing everything except what they’re supposed to be doing and that’s taking care of troops.

You also have the junior officer who’s out to make a name for himself at the expense of his soldiers and not caring for their well-being.

I’m all about training for war and ensuring our soldiers are mentally fit and physically able, but look at your audience before you start a high operations tempo program.

An example of this is when a soldier goes to war and then returns, the officers that he spent a year with are now gone and a new set of green, single officers show up full of piss and vinegar and start the cycle again.

They don’t care about soldiers’ married lives.

The warriors of today never stop, no matter where they are.

Master Sgt. Edward E. Jackson
Kabul, Afghanistan

Army Command Says Fuck Off To Misdiagnosed Soldiers Thrown Out With No Benefits: “An Unknown Number Of Troops Still Unfairly Bear The Stigma Of A Personality Disorder, Making Them Ineligible For Military Health Care And Other Benefits”



Chuck Luther, left, with his two-year-old daughter Marlee at his home near Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas, Aug. 13, 2010. At the height of the Iraq war, the Army routinely fired hundreds of soldiers for having a personality disorder when they were more likely suffering from the traumatic stresses of war, discharge data suggests. Luther, who had served eight years in the Army, who been honorably discharged, and who rejoined after the Sept. 11 attacks, was one of them. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

"There's no reason to believe personality discharges would go down so quickly" unless the Army had misdiagnosed hundreds of soldiers each year in the first place, said Bart Stichman, co-director of the National Veterans Legal Services Program.

A person is screened mentally and physically before joining the military. But upon returning from combat, that same person is told he or she had a serious mental disorder that predated military service.

WASHINGTON – At the height of the Iraq war, the Army routinely dismissed hundreds of soldiers for having a personality disorder when they were more likely suffering from the traumatic stresses of war, discharge data suggests.

Under pressure from Congress and the public, the Army later acknowledged the problem and drastically cut the number of soldiers given the designation.

But advocates for veterans say an unknown number of troops still unfairly bear the stigma of a personality disorder, making them ineligible for military health care and other benefits.

"We really have an obligation to go back and make sure troops weren't misdiagnosed," said Dr. Barbara Van Dahlen, a clinical psychologist whose nonprofit "Give an Hour" connects troops with volunteer mental health professionals.

The Army denies that any soldier was misdiagnosed before 2008, when it drastically cut the number of discharges due to personality disorders and diagnoses of post-traumatic stress disorders skyrocketed.

Unlike PTSD, which the Army regards as a treatable mental disability caused by the acute stresses of war, the military designation of a personality disorder can have devastating consequences for soldiers.

Defined as a "deeply ingrained maladaptive pattern of behavior," a personality disorder is considered a "pre-existing condition" that relieves the military of its duty to pay for the person's health care or combat-related disability pay.

According to figures provided by the Army, the service discharged about a 1,000 soldiers a year between 2005 and 2007 for having a personality disorder.

But after an article in The Nation magazine exposed the practice, the Defense Department changed its policy and began requiring a top-level review of each case to ensure post-traumatic stress or a brain injury wasn't the underlying cause.

After that, the annual number of personality disorder cases dropped by 75 percent. Only 260 soldiers were discharged on those grounds in 2009.

At the same time, the number of post-traumatic stress disorder cases has soared. By 2008, more than 14,000 soldiers had been diagnosed with PTSD — twice as many as two years before.

The Army attributes the sudden and sharp reduction in personality disorders to its policy change.

Yet Army officials deny that soldiers were discharged unfairly, saying they reviewed the paperwork of all deployed soldiers dismissed with a personality disorder between 2001 and 2006.

"We did not find evidence that soldiers with PTSD had been inappropriately discharged with personality disorder," wrote Maria Tolleson, a spokeswoman at the U.S. Army Medical Command, which oversees the health care of soldiers, in an e-mail.

Command officials declined to be interviewed.

Advocates for veterans are skeptical of the Army's claim that it didn't make any mistakes.

They say symptoms of PTSD — anger, irritability, anxiety and depression — can easily be confused for the Army's description of a personality disorder.

They also point out that during its review of past cases, the Army never interviewed soldiers or their families, who can often provide evidence of a shift in behavior that occurred after someone was sent into a war zone.

"There's no reason to believe personality discharges would go down so quickly" unless the Army had misdiagnosed hundreds of soldiers each year in the first place, said Bart Stichman, co-director of the National Veterans Legal Services Program.

Stichman's organization is working through a backlog of 130 individual cases of wounded service members who feel they were wrongly denied benefits.

Among those cases is Chuck Luther, who decided to rejoin the Army after the Sept. 11 attacks. He had previously served eight years before being honorably discharged.

"I knew what combat was going to take," he said.

Luther, who lives near Fort Hood, Texas, said throughout his time in the Army, he received eight mental health evaluations from the Army, each clearing him as "fit for duty."

Luther was seven months into his deployment as a reconnaissance scout in Iraq's violent Sunni Triangle in 2007 when he says a mortar shell slammed him to the ground. He later complained of stabbing eye pain and crippling migraines, but was told by a military doctor that he was faking his symptoms to avoid combat duty.

Luther says that he was confined for a month in a 6-by-8 foot room without treatment. At one point, Luther acknowledges, he snapped — biting a guard and spitting in the face of a military chaplain.

After that episode, Luther says, the Army told him he could return home and keep his benefits if he signed papers admitting he had a personality disorder. If he didn't sign, he said, he was told he would be kicked out eventually anyway.

Luther, whose account was first detailed by The Nation, signed the papers.

His case highlights the irony in many personality discharges. A person is screened mentally and physically before joining the military. But upon returning from combat, that same person is told he or she had a serious mental disorder that predated military service.

As in the civilian world, where many insurance companies deny coverage for illnesses that develop before a policy is issued, the government can deny a service member veteran health care benefits and combat-related disability pay for pre-existing ailments.

Despite the Defense Department's reforms, groups such as the National Veterans Legal Services Program say they don't have enough manpower to help all the veterans who believe they were wrongly denied benefits.

Stichman says his organization has more than 60 law firms across the country willing to take on the legal cases of wounded veterans for free. But even with that help, the group doesn't know when it would be able to take on even one new case.

As for Luther, he got lucky.

After about a year, he says the Veterans Administration agreed to reevaluate him and decided that he suffers from post-traumatic stress syndrome coupled by traumatic brain injury. The ruling gives him access to a psychologist and psychiatrist every two weeks, despite his discharge status, he said.

But Luther acknowledges that he still struggles.

In June, he received word that the Army had turned down his appeal to correct his record, which means he could never return to the service or retire with full benefits.

A week later, he says, he lost his job delivering potato chips because a superior felt threatened by him. Luther says he misses the Army.

"When I was in uniform, that defined me," he said. "It's what made me, me."

MORE:

**Forbidden To Kick Out
Wounded Soldiers For “Pre-
Existing Conditions,” Scheming
Traitors At DoD Now Kick Out
Wounded Soldiers For
“Adjustment Disorders”**

**Fuck Those Wounded In Combat --
Saving Money For The Obama
Regime Comes First:
“Fresh Charges From Advocates
That The Military Is Seeking To Hold
Down Its Costs By Short-Changing
Troops”
“Some Troops Already Formally
Diagnosed With PTSD Are Being
Administratively Discharged With No
Benefits — A Violation Of The Law”**

August 16, 2010 Army Times Editorial [Excerpts]

While deployed to Iraq with the 4th Infantry Division, former Army Pfc. Michael Nahas said he watched 14 people die in a 2008 explosion in Mosul.

A few months after returning home to Fort Carson, Colo., Nahas, on a heavy prescription of Xanax, tried to commit suicide in the bathroom of his off-post apartment by jabbing IV tubes in his wrists, intending to bleed out.

Miraculously, Nahas' wife found him before he died and help arrived in time.

In a photo of the aftermath provided by his family, the tub, walls and floor are splashed crimson, and a bloody smiley faced smeared on the tiles eerily peers down at the carnage.

After his suicide attempt, Nahas spent time in an inpatient clinic and was diagnosed with PTSD, which should have led to the standard medical disability retirement process.

But in April, his battalion gave him administrative discharge for “adjustment disorder” and sent him back to civilian life — with no benefits.

Veterans advocates say Nahas' case exemplifies a troubling new trend in the use of adjustment disorder diagnoses for mental health issues, including PTSD.

Adjustment disorder is a fairly broad label that is used, for example, as a quick and simple way to discharge boot camp recruits who find they just can't cope with military life.

But some advocates say the services are misusing adjustment disorder to discharge some combat veterans who, like Nahas, may be traumatized by their wartime experiences.

The reason, they say, is cost.

Under a 2008 change in law, a diagnosis of PTSD is supposed to trigger an automatic 50-percent disability rating — along with lifetime medical retirement pay and health care benefits.

But a service member found to have adjustment disorder can be given a simple administrative discharge that carries no benefits — and no cost to the military.

Defense officials insist that budget considerations play no role in such decisions. But a similar scenario unfolded a few years ago when administrative discharges for “pre-existing personality disorder” began to rise, topping 1,000 in 2006 and 2007.

Congress enacted new rules in 2008 to curb use of that diagnosis — and discharges plunged to just 260 last year, according to data gathered by the office of Sen. Christopher “Kit” Bond, R-Mo., who took a leading role in effort to enact those new rules.

But simultaneously, discharges for the category of conditions that includes adjustment disorder began to soar, from 1,453 in 2006 to 3,844 last year — a spike of 165 percent.

Those trend lines have stoked fresh charges from advocates that the military is seeking to hold down its costs by shortchanging troops with mental health issues on health care and other benefits.

Even more egregiously, Nahas' case shows that some troops already formally diagnosed with PTSD are being administratively discharged with no benefits — a violation of the law enacted by Congress in 2008. Some advocates say they know of hundreds of such cases.

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

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

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**

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**

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

-- David Cortright; Soldiers In Revolt

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

-- Larry Christensen, Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers

“Whilst Large-Scale Industry Preached Freedom And Peace Between Nations It Also Turned The World Into An Armed Camp As Never Before In History”

Comment: T

As may be seen in the article below, the enemy of every American soldier is the Imperial Government in Washington DC.

The class of capitalists who command the political power of this society have heaped up the wealth on top, and keep grabbing for more, using their government to do it, while the rest of us try to scrape buy, unable to buy what capitalism could produce.

Thus we see the present mountain of idle productive capacity worldwide, while trillions of \$ of the wealth our labor produces are appropriated by their class and sits hoarded in their banks, finding no profitable investment for them anywhere, as they will only produce what we need if there is profit in it for them.

Those who are not rich and powerful have nothing to gain from Imperial wars of invasion and occupation, earnestly work for their defeat, and offer every possible assistance to the soldiers organizing against Imperial war.

There are many thousands of U.S. soldiers today who understand who their enemy is: the Imperial domestic enemy headquartered in Washington DC.

Americans who have nothing to gain from Wars of Empire -- civilians and troops together -- will strike down the Imperial regime that infests Washington DC, thereby regaining our liberties and well being.

That storm will come.

From: KARL MARX; The Story of His Life
By Franz Mehring, 1918
Translated from the German by Edward Fitzgerald

The capitalist mode of production, an embodied contradiction, both produces and destroys modern states.

It intensifies all national antagonisms to the utmost and at the same time it creates all nations in its own image.

So long as the capitalist mode of production exists these contradictions are insoluble, and therefore the brotherhood of man about which all bourgeois revolutions have sung so sweetly has suffered defeat again and again.

Whilst large-scale industry preached freedom and peace between nations it also turned the world into an armed camp as never before in history.

However, with the disappearance of the capitalist mode of production its contradictions will vanish also. It is true that the proletarian struggle for emancipation must develop on a national basis because the capitalist process of production develops within national limits, and in the beginning therefore the proletariat in each country finds itself face to face with its own bourgeoisie.

Despite this, however, the proletariat need not submit to the merciless competition which has always destroyed all bourgeois dreams of international peace and freedom.

As soon as the workers realize that they must get rid of competition in their own ranks if they are to offer effective resistance to the superior power of capital — and this realization coincides with the first awakening of their class-consciousness — then it is only a step to the deeper realization that competition between the working classes of the various countries must cease too, and still further that the working classes must cooperate internationally if they are to overthrow the international dominance of the bourgeoisie.

Very early in the history of the modern working-class movement therefore, a tendency towards internationalism made itself felt.

What the bourgeoisie, thanks to the narrowing of its horizon by its profit interests, regards as unpatriotic, as ignorance and lack of understanding, is in reality a vital condition for the very existence of the proletarian struggle for emancipation.

Although this struggle can solve the antagonism between nationalism and internationalism, whilst the bourgeoisie is condemned to writhe under it as long as it lives, the workers possess no magic wand in this respect any more than in any other, and they are not able to turn the hard and difficult climb into a level and easy path.

The modern working class has to fight its battles under conditions created by historical development.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

TAKING AFGHANISTAN SERIOUSLY

ANOTHER IN AN OCCASIONAL SERIES OF CARTOONS ABOUT THINGS, AND TAKING THEM SERIOUSLY

SERIOUS: ASSESSING THE COST OF THE WAR AND DECLARING IT MONEY WELL SPENT.

\$300 BILLION IS *CHUMP CHANGE*-- IF IT HELPS TO SOMEDAY POSSIBLY BEGIN THE PROCESS OF CONDITIONALLY BRINGING SOMETHING SORT OF RESEMBLING *STABILITY* TO THAT BELEAGUED NATION!

AS YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND, IF YOU WERE AS SERIOUS AS *ME!*



NOT SERIOUS: WONDERING IF THAT MONEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN PUT TO BETTER USE ELSEWHERE.

WITH OUR ECONOMY TANKING AND OUR INFRASTRUCTURE IN TATTERS, \$300 BILLION SURE *SEEMS* LIKE A LOT TO HAVE WASTED ON AN INCREASINGLY POINTLESS WAR.

BUT WHAT DO *I* KNOW? I'M JUST A FRIVOLOUS *NINCOMPPOOP!*

I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE SPENT IT ALL ON *ICE CREAM!*



SERIOUS: ACCEPTING THE REGRETTABLE NECESSITY OF AFGHAN CIVILIAN CASUALTIES.

SERIOUS PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT ACCIDENTS *HAPPEN* IN WARS!

YOU CAN'T MAKE A *FREEDOM OMELET* WITHOUT BREAKING SOME *CIVILIAN EGGS!*



NOT SERIOUS: WONDERING HOW AFGHAN CIVILIANS FEEL ABOUT THAT. IF *MY* WIFE OR CHILDREN WERE ACCIDENTALLY KILLED IN A PREDATOR DRONE STRIKE--I THINK I'D ACTUALLY BE PRETTY *UPSET!*

IF I WEREN'T SUCH A SCATTER-BRAINED *NINNY*, THAT IS!

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA!



SERIOUS: INSISTING THAT WE MUST STAY THE COURSE FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES.

THE FACT THAT WE HAVE NOT ACHIEVED OUR OBJECTIVES AFTER NINE YEARS OF OCCUPATION--

--PROVES THAT WE MUST *EXTEND* THE OCCUPATION--*IN-DEFINITELY!*

IT'S THE ONLY *SERIOUS* THING TO DO.



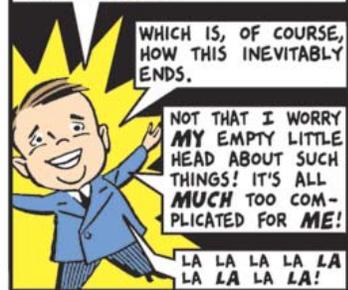
NOT SERIOUS: WONDERING HOW LONG THAT WILL BE.

HOW MANY MORE TROOPS HAVE TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES BEFORE WE ARBITRARILY DECLARE VICTORY AND WITHDRAW?

WHICH IS, OF COURSE, HOW THIS INEVITABLY ENDS.

NOT THAT I WORRY *MY* EMPTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT SUCH THINGS! IT'S ALL *MUCH* TOO COMPLICATED FOR *ME!*

LA LA LA LA LA LA LA!



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

**NY City Police Filth In
Command Stage Night Terror
Attack On Apartment Of Honest
Cop Who Documented Their
Orders To Make Wholesale
Arrests Of Innocent Citizens:
They Break In Without A Warrant,
Pull Him Out Of Bed, Tear His
Clothes As They Throw Him To
The Floor, Strip-search Him,
Handcuff Him, And Lock Him Up In
A Mental Hospital:
After Deputy Chief Marino Puts His
Boot On Schoolcraft's' Face, He
Steals Schoolcraft's Tapes And
Notes Of Police Command's Criminal
Acts;
Now, "Upstate, 350 Miles From The City"
"Armed NYPD Officials Continue, Up
And Through The Present, To Come To
His Home & Repeatedly Pound On His
Door"**



Former Police Officer Adrian Schoolcraft, Victim Of Night Attack By New York City Police Department Terrorists

[If they do this to one of their own, think what these lice in command can order done to fake charges against the rest of us.

[If you check out the box at the end, you'll find there are street cops who also report Schoolcraft had it right: their orders from command are: just make your quota of arrests, and who gives a shit if the citizens are innocent. T]

Mr. Schoolcraft taped Mr. Mauriello ordering “his officers to arrest virtually everybody they came in contact with at 120 Chauncey St.” “Everybody goes. I don’t care. You’re on 120 Chauncey and they’re popping champagne? Yoke ’em. Put them through the system. They got bandanas on? Arrest them. Everybody goes tonight. They’re underage? Fuck it.”

August 23, 2010, By Mark Toor, The Chief [Excerpts]

A Police Officer who surreptitiously taped his superiors illegally threatening officers who did not fulfill ticket quotas and urging them to make arrests without probable cause sued the NYPD last week, charging that his bosses tried to pressure him not to make complaints and when that failed, burst into his home, stripped him, handcuffed him and hauled him to the Jamaica Hospital psychiatric ward.

At one point, with Police Officer Adrian Schoolcraft restrained on the floor, Deputy Chief Michael Marino, second in command of the Brooklyn North Patrol Borough, put his boot on Mr. Schoolcraft’s face and stated, “It didn’t have to be like this,” according to the suit, which was filed Aug. 10 in U.S. District Court in Manhattan.

The suit names as defendants the NYPD and 11 specific Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captains, Deputy Inspectors and Chiefs, as well as Jamaica Hospital and two of its doctors. It seeks \$50 million plus attorneys' fees.

"We've been finding that the NYPD's MO in these situations with this type of officer is they definitely try to make them look crazy," Joshua Fitch, one of Mr. Schoolcraft's attorneys, said in an interview.

Mr. Schoolcraft's tapes also show officers refusing to take complaints from crime victims and supervisors downgrading crimes so they didn't show up on Compstat reports, according to the Voice series.

The suit contends Mr. Schoolcraft, 35, was "forced . . . to sever his employment with the NYPD" and move upstate, 350 miles from the city.

Even so, according to the suit, "armed NYPD officials continue, up and through the present, to come to his home, repeatedly pound on his door, photograph him, and engage in efforts designed to purposefully intimidate and harass in a tireless effort to silence him once and for all."

Mr. Schoolcraft joined the Police Department in July 2002. He was assigned to the 81st Precinct in Bedford- Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, when he taped the precinct commander, Deputy Inspector Stephen Mauriello, telling officers on Oct. 28, 2008, that they need to write more summonses.

"If you don't work . . . I'm moving you. You're going to another platoon," he said. State law and labor-arbitration decisions forbid police commanders from transferring or otherwise punishing officers because they don't fulfill summons quotas.

"Defendants were so obsessed with making their 'numbers' that they literally instructed officers to make arrests when there was no evidence of any criminal activity whatsoever," the suit says. ". . . Defendants' myopic obsession with quotas came straight from the highest-ranking officials in the New York City Police Department."

Three days after the summons threat, Mr. Schoolcraft taped Mr. Mauriello ordering "his officers to arrest virtually everybody they came in contact with at 120 Chauncey St." (a mere three blocks from the fictitious address for Ralph and Alice Kramden in "The Honeymooners"): "Everybody goes. I don't care. You're on 120 Chauncey and they're popping champagne? Yoke 'em. Put them through the system. They got bandanas on? Arrest them. Everybody goes tonight. They're underage? F--- it."

In January 2009, Mr. Schoolcraft "began to be scrutinized and increasingly pressured by his supervisors and commanding officers to increase his 'activity' (i.e., not writing enough summonses and making arrests) or face possible low performance evaluations and tour/command reassignment," the suit says.

At the end of the month, he received a poor evaluation. Mr. Schoolcraft said he would appeal it. His bosses, including Mr. Mauriello, "repeatedly attempted to discourage (him) from appealing his performance evaluation and implicitly threatened plaintiff with retaliation if he pursued the issue."

When Mr. Schoolcraft declined to drop his appeal, his supervisors “began to create an increasingly hostile work environment for him.”

Lieut. Timothy Caughey reprimanded him for not writing in his memo book that he had gone to the bathroom, the suit said.

When he asked the duty Captain, Theodore Lauterborn, to “document this act of retaliation,” Mr. Lauterborn responded: “Didn’t we tell you when you left here that there’s gonna be a lot more supervision? You think this is. . . retaliation? This is a matter of supervision. . . ’ ”

“During this conversation defendant Lauterborn informed (Mr. Schoolcraft) that he was being carefully monitored because of his ‘poor performance’ and suggested that it should not be a surprise now if even minor infractions result in disciplinary action, even if they had not previously resulted in such action,” the suit says.

Mr. Lauterborn then gave Mr. Schoolcraft some tips for increasing his activity.

He “instructed plaintiff merely to approach and detain young adults for sitting in front of a highcrime building, regardless of probable cause or reasonable suspicion,” the suit said.

“Further, defendant Lauterborn then suggested that were he to hear one of those individuals curse during this interaction, it would be appropriate to arrest them despite having committed ‘no violation of law,’ because police cannot appear ‘soft’ in these neighborhoods.”

Mr. Schoolcraft contacted the Internal Affairs Bureau, but, the suit says, “IAB Detectives repeatedly left messages for plaintiff at the 81st Precinct, despite the explicit duty of IAB to keep such complaints confidential, effectively and implicitly alerting plaintiff’s superiors that he was now actively working with IAB. . . ”

On Oct, 31, 2009, Mr. Caughey examined Mr. Schoolcraft’s memo book, then “began to exhibit menacing behavior” to Mr. Schoolcraft, the suit says: “With one hand near his gun, (he) made continuous menacing gestures directed at (Mr. Schoolcraft) in an apparent response to the evidence of corruption contained within (Mr. Schoolcraft’s) memo book. . . ”

Mr. Schoolcraft decided to go home to Glendale, Queens, “rather than subject himself to potential physical harm” from Mr. Caughey, the suit says.

He left less than an hour before the end of his shift with a Sergeant’s permission, but the Sergeant later ordered him back to the precinct with a voice-mail message.

That night, at least a dozen police officers, two of them in riot gear, “unlawfully entered his home without a warrant, permission, or other legally permissible reason to do so,” the suit says.

It says Mr. Marino had obtained keys to Mr. Schoolcraft’s apartment after officers told the landlord Mr. Schoolcraft was suicidal.

The officers ordered him to get dressed and return to the precinct, then told him he was suspended, the suit says.

He declined to go, and Mr. Marino “impatiently stated in sum and substance: ‘All right, just take him, I can’t f----- stand him anymore’(S)everal police officers pulled plaintiff out of his bed, physically assaulted him, tore his clothes as they threw him to the floor, illegally stripsearched him and violently handcuffed him with his arms behind his back, causing excruciating pain to his wrists, shoulders, arms, neck and back,” according to the suit.

They searched the apartment, taking his notes and reports on his complaints about the 81st Precinct, the suit says.

Then they took him to the Jamaica Hospital psychiatric ward, where they gave doctors false information that led to his involuntary admission as an emotionally disturbed person, according to the suit. He was not released for six days, even though “one of the doctors who initially examined (him) stated out loud that it was ‘ridiculous’ that he was even brought to the psychiatric emergency room. . . .”

Police officers denied Mr. Schoolcraft access to a telephone, the suit says, and hospital staff members ignored his requests to contact IAB or photograph his bruises.

Mr. Schoolcraft “was completely cut off from the outside world, and there was nothing he could do about it,” the suit says.

Read What New York City Police Officers Have To Say About It:

This is a protected website where New York City police officers can comment on issues, and the doings of their rotten commanders, without fear of exposure. Their comments on this case are found **at the bottom of the above news story and editorial from the Chief**, at:

<http://theerant.yuku.com/topic/33595/t/Cop-Says-Brass-Leaned-On-Him-to-Hide-Quotas-Chief.html>

Here's an example:

Numbers are one thing,,,but I read the complaint, which you all can read on the link for Schoolcrafts attorney; there is some dam scary criminal actions that took place by white shirts when they forcibly removed Schoolcraft from his home. I am thinking jail time and lots of lots of money for Schoolcraft,,,,,,,even after he left the job, the Job drove 350 miles to menace Schcrft at his home. I hope he gets every penny from the city and I hope the job/brass and psy services gets burned,

Why was Marino not fired when he was involved in a steroid scandal? That is also mentioned in the complaint.

As I read the complaint, the supervisors are being brought to court, white shields are mentioned as John Doe.

To top it off, Schrcft got billed 7k for his confinement for the mental eval.

I hope the guy can carry on his life in peace.

CLASS WAR REPORTS



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.

“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



Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out

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

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

<http://williambowles.info/wordpress/category/military-resistance/> ;
news@uruknet.info; http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/

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