

Military Resistance 8J4



**Taliban Using Facebook And
Twitter:
High Tech Goes Into High Gear To
Disseminate Sophisticated Press
Releases:**

Latest Statement Promises Their Government Will ‘Bring About Administrative Transparency In All Government Departments’”

“Broadly Speaking, Karzai, Under The Foreign Domination, Is Heading A Puppet Multidimensional Administration Whose Members Are Morally, Politically And Financially Corrupt” Says A Taliban Statement

The latest row between Karzai and U.S. officials was over the detention of two al-Jazeera cameramen for allegedly distributing Taliban propaganda. The Taliban was quick to weigh in.

“The occupying American troops . . . on the one hand claim and call for the freedom and respect of journalism,” the group said in a statement. “Then on the other hand they shut the mouths of free independent news agencies.”

October 1, 2010 By Ernesto Londoño, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

KABUL - The Taliban in recent months has developed increasingly sophisticated and nimble propaganda tactics that have alarmed U.S. officials struggling to curb the militant group's growing influence across Afghanistan.

U.S. officials and Afghan analysts say the Taliban has become adept at portraying the West as being on the brink of defeat, at exploiting rifts between Washington and Kabul and at disparaging the administration of President Hamid Karzai as a “puppet” state with little reach outside the capital.

The group is also attempting to assure Afghans that it has a strategy for governing the country again, presenting a platform of stamping out corruption and even protecting women's rights.

As the radical Islamist movement steps up conventional grass-roots propaganda efforts and polishes its online presence - going so as far as to provide Facebook and Twitter icons online that allow readers to disseminate press releases - the U.S.-led coalition finds itself on the defensive in the media war.

“It's been getting better,” a U.S. intelligence official in Kabul said of the Taliban's media strategy. “It's become increasingly complex. It's definitely something we worry about.”

In his guidance to troops issued on Aug. 1, Gen. David H. Petraeus, the top U.S. and NATO commander here, urged his troops to “fight the information war aggressively.”

Last month, Taliban leader Mohammad Omar issued a statement that heralded the imminent defeat of NATO forces in Afghanistan and outlined how the Taliban would govern when it returned to power. The bluster was not unusual; the insistence that the Taliban has a specific plan for leading the country again was.

“These days their propaganda has changed,” said Afghan political analyst Jelani Zwak, who has studied Taliban propaganda for years. “They are not only talking about the occupation and civilian casualties. They are acting like an alternative to this government.”

In a clear reference to Karzai's administration, which many Afghans view as corruption-ridden, Omar vowed that the Taliban would “bring about administrative transparency in all government departments.”

Omar also promised the new regime would respect the rights of “all people in the country, including women,” an apparent effort to dispel the widely held belief that the return of the Taliban would be dismal for women's rights.

The Taliban applauded the withdrawal of Dutch troops this summer and suggested that Germany, Canada and Australia - three important coalition allies in countries where the war is unpopular - follow suit.

“It (is) rational that the U.S. forces be left in Afghanistan alone to stew in their own juice and suffer the dire and dangerous consequences of their violation and invasion of another country,” the group's statement said.

In press releases and articles appearing on its Web site, the Taliban has sought to reinforce the notion that the Afghan government is subservient to Washington, commonly calling Afghan troops and other government employees “puppets.”

“Broadly speaking, Karzai, under the foreign domination, is heading a puppet multidimensional administration whose members are morally, politically and financially corrupt,” said a Taliban statement released in response to a Washington Post report in August that several Karzai aides were on the CIA payroll.

The Taliban continues to rely heavily on decentralized, conventional propaganda efforts, which U.S. military officials say is the crucial battleground. These include the distribution of leaflets with threats or pleas, sermons in mosques and clandestine radio stations.

“They've co-opted the religious narrative for the last several years,” Rear Adm. Greg Smith, NATO's communications chief in Afghanistan, said in an interview. “They've used that narrative locally very effectively.”

Foreign troops, meanwhile, are ill-equipped to offer counterarguments in mosques and other gatherings, forcing them to rely on Afghan officials to do so, Smith said.

So far, that effort has been slow in the Taliban's southern strongholds of Kandahar and Helmand provinces, even as Taliban influence has spread in the east and the north, Afghans say.

U.S. officials say the Taliban has built relationships with Afghan journalists that help the group shape the storyline.

"They are not fighting a war that involves military victories," Smith said. "Everything they do is to create a perception that the government can't win."

Zwak, the analyst, said he has been struck by a change in the "psychology of Afghan people" as he traveled around the country in recent months.

"People in provinces and tribal areas mostly accept this narrative, that (the Americans) are leaving Afghanistan and the Taliban is coming back," he said.

He said recent public sparring between Karzai and U.S. officials and President Obama's announcement that the United States will begin drawing down forces in July 2011 has bolstered the Taliban's standing in contested parts of the country.

"The propaganda war is already won by the Taliban," he said, because "the Afghan government and America are too busy doing propaganda against each other."

Smith, the NATO communications chief, said commanders recognize the importance of projecting a unified front.

The latest row between Karzai and U.S. officials was over the detention of two al-Jazeera cameramen for allegedly distributing Taliban propaganda.

"Coalition and Afghan forces have a responsibility to interdict the activities of these insurgent propaganda networks," a NATO statement justifying the arrests said.

Over the weekend, Karzai criticized the move and demanded the release of the journalists, whose employer is one of the most popular news sources in the Islamic world. The network has denied they were distributing Taliban propaganda.

The men were released Friday, although a NATO spokesman insisted Sunday that U.S. intelligence "indicated a level of complicity" in the journalists' dealing with insurgents.

The Taliban was quick to weigh in.

"The occupying American troops . . . on the one hand claim and call for the freedom and respect of journalism," the group said in a statement. "Then on the other hand they shut the mouths of free independent news agencies."

ACTION REPORTS

“Our Material Was Familiar And Found To Be ‘OK’” [Outreach To New York National Guard 8.26.2010]

From: Alan S
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: August 27, 2010
Subject: 8/26/10 Outreach To New York National Guard

Late afternoon-evening seems best for finding National Guard patrols at the commuter terminals here in NYC although mornings can't be completely ruled out. In other words, unpredictability still rules.

At around 4:30 pm a sergeant and a private were approached and as it turned out the private knew me from previous outreaches.

Our material was familiar and found to be “OK.” It was mentioned, however, that the private had read “other material similar” to ours! I didn't find out any more on this point.

The sergeant didn't know me and accepted a “Sir! No Sir!” DVD plus our most recent handout: the April-May issue of *Traveling Soldier* [see below], a double sided *Traveling Soldier/Military Resistance* announcement, a GI Rights pamphlet plus a contact card [see below]. The sergeant seemed pleased so I provided extra cards.

Further on a second private politely refused material except a contact card. Moments later another sergeant also knew me and we spoke for a few minutes although all material was declined (as previously with this soldier).

The private accompanying this sergeant also knew me, had read and seen information from the Military Resistance Organization, and took a recent Military Resistance newsletter but not commenting after being asked what he thought of the material received previously.

Only one of the five soldiers knew beforehand of upcoming deployment but wouldn't say where or when.

MORE:

“They Expressed Thanks And The Corporal Told Me He's Deploying Some Time This Year To Afghanistan” [Outreach To New York National Guard]

From: Alan S
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: September 12, 2010
Subject: More soldiers

It's impossible (at this point) to determine when and where National Guards patrol at the three local commuter terminals.

It's truly potluck to come across any although I suspect evening hours are best.

During one day last week I came across three, 2 privates and a corporal this time, standing guard at one of the terminals. All young and friendly (sound familiar?) and willing to talk.

All received Military Resistance publications; an MR Newsletter and two of our most recent armory handouts plus two DVDs of “Sir! No Sir!”

They expressed thanks and the corporal told me he's deploying some time this year to Afghanistan. Asked about his opinion he said “it's a job.” Many say this but most jobs don't get you killed so easily.

I wished them luck and went looking for more patrols but couldn't find any. Next time may prove more fulfilling.

Keep those contact cards handy. Soldiers take the subway too.

Saw one a few weeks ago getting a Metrocard and was able to give him our card.

Another was leaving for the airport several weeks ago. He got a card too.

MORE:

ACTION REPORTS WANTED: FROM YOU!

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to Military Resistance for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how.

If there were favorable responses, say so.

If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out. Reporting what went wrong and/or got screwed up is especially important, so that others may learn from you what to expect, and how to avoid similar problems if possible.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

NOTE WELL:

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Identifying information – locations, personnel – will be omitted from the reports.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the wars.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs identifying information be published in reporting on the action.

MORE:

Military Resistance

Traveling Soldier
Newsletter



www.traveling-soldier.org

(888) 711-2550
contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway New York, NY 10025

SUPPORTING GI RESISTANCE

[front]

If you are a veteran who supports an immediate end to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan -- the Military Project recommends you contact:

IRAQ VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR



www.IVAW.org

[back]

[Cards designed by Richie M, Military Resistance Organization]

MORE:

CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/TS32.pdf>

THIS ISSUE FEATURING:

INDIANA SOLDIERS ORGANIZING OPEN RESISTANCE TO AFGHAN DEPLOYMENT, "CHARGING THEIR COMPANY IS NOT PROPERLY TRAINED OR MENTALLY FIT FOR BATTLE"

ARMY LIFE:

"UNFORTUNATE TRUTH"

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

MORE ARMY LIFE:

"SUICIDE"

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

Telling the truth - about the occupations or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance to Imperial wars inside the armed forces.

Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.

If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers. <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization

FYI: Traveling Soldier Is Published By The Military Resistance Organization:

Military Resistance Mission Statement:

1. The mission of Military Resistance is to bring together in one organization members of the armed forces and civilians in order to give aid and comfort to members of the armed forces who are organizing to end the wars of empire in Afghanistan and Iraq. The long term objective is to assist in eliminating all wars of empire by eliminating all empires.

2. Military Resistance does not advocate individual disobedience to orders or desertion from the armed forces. The most effective resistance is organized by members of the armed forces working together.

However, Military Resistance respects and will assist in the defense of troops who see individual desertion or refusal of orders as the only course of action open to them for reasons of conscience.

3. Military Resistance stands for the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and other occupation troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Occupied nations have the right to independence and the right to resist Imperial invasion and occupation by force of arms.

4. Efforts to increase democratic rights in every society, organization, movement, and within the armed forces itself will receive encouragement and support.

Members of the armed forces, whether those of the United States or any other nation, have the right and duty to act against dictatorships commanding their services, and to assist civilian movements against dictatorship.

This applies whether a political dictatorship is imposed by force of arms or a political dictatorship is imposed by those in command of the resources of society using their wealth to purchase the political leadership.

5. Military Resistance uses organizational democracy.

This means control of the organization by the membership, through elected delegates to any coordinating bodies that may be formed, whether at local, regional, or national levels.

Any member may run for any job in the organization. All persons elected are subject to immediate recall, by majority vote of the membership.

Coordinating bodies report their actions, decisions and votes to the membership who elected them, and may be overruled by a majority of the membership.

6. It is not necessary for Military Resistance to be in political agreement with other organizations in order to work together towards specific common objectives.

It is productive for organizations working together on common projects to discuss differences about the best way forward for the movement.

Debate is necessary to arrive at the best course of action.

Membership Requirements:

7. It is a condition of membership that each member prioritize and participate in organized action to reach out to active duty armed forces, Reserve and/or National Guard units.

8. Military Resistance or individual members may choose to support candidates for elective office who are for immediate withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan, but do not support a candidate opposed to immediate, unconditional withdrawal.

9. Members may not be active duty or drilling reserve commissioned officers, or employed in any capacity by any police or intelligence agency, local, state, or national.

10. I understand and am in agreement with the above statement. I pledge to defend my brothers and sisters, and the democratic rights of the citizens of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

-----**(Signed**

(Date)

----- **(Application taken by)**

**Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657**

888-711-2550

MORE

**Take Action That Makes A
Difference:
Join The Military Resistance
Organization:
MILITARY RESISTANCE MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

Name (please print): _____

Armed Forces? (Branch) _____

Veteran? Years: _____

Union: _____

Occupation: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone (Landline): _____

Phone (Cell): _____

\$ dues paid _____

(See next: Calendar year basis.)

Armed Forces Members	@	Dues waived
Civilians	@	\$25
Students/Unemployed	@	\$10
Civilian/Military Prisoners	@	Dues Waived

Comments:

NOTE: Civilian applicants will be interviewed, in person if possible, or by phone.

**Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550**

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

19-Year-Old Marine From Hernando Killed In Afghanistan

8/22/10 By Melissa Moon, WREG-TV

The parents of a Hernando, Mississippi Marine killed just two days ago in Afghanistan say their son died a hero.

19-year-old Joshua Ose had only been in Afghanistan two weeks when he was killed while on foot patrol Monday.

Friends and family say Joshua died doing what he loved.

"He was quite mischievous and very inventive with his shenanigans as he called them," said Sissy Ose.

Sissy and Ross Ose say their son Joshua had a wild side and they never knew what to expect.

Wednesday, they showed us pictures of Josh as he attempted to jump off every bridge in Desoto County.

"He never got in trouble, but he was one of those was going to grab life and go," said Ross Ose.

At the age of ten Josh also began competing in national rifle matches at military bases around the country.

So when he told his parents he wanted to join the Marines they weren't too surprised.

"It was what was where he wanted to be and doing what he wanted to do," said Ross.

Josh enlisted in the Marines after graduating from Hernando High School last year.

He was able to spend time with loved ones before he began his tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Hannah Hill grew up with Josh and says they were more like brother and sister than best friends.

"He actually gave these (dog tags) to me for my birthday before he left for Afghanistan and I've been wearing them ever since," said Hill.

Hannah says Josh wanted to fight for what he believed in and his parents say as he got closer to his deployment he understood the reality of war.

Monday he was killed after being hit by small arms fire while on a foot patrol.

He had only been in Afghanistan two weeks.

"You know they may not come home. You cautiously plan for the future and hope and pray for the best, but some of the best got to go and fight," said Ross.

And they say their thoughts are also with the other parents who also lost children that day.

"I couldn't be prouder of my son," said Sissy.

No funeral arrangements have been made yet. Joshua's body was returned to the states this afternoon.

Decorated Local Soldier Killed In Action



Sep 20, 2010 By Laura Geller, WWBT NBC12

RICHMOND, VA – A Richmond family is in mourning, grieving the death of a local soldier killed in Afghanistan.

27-year old Staff Sgt. Jaime Newman was killed on Friday when an improvised explosive device went off near his patrol. His army service spanned seven years. It took him from Richmond to the Middle East, where the father of two made the ultimate sacrifice.

Staff Sgt. Newman's body is now back in the states. It was ceremoniously taken off a military transport at Dover Air Force Base Sunday.

Last week, he was on patrol in Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device detonated, killing him and another soldier.

The 27-year old infantryman of the 101st Airborne Division was highly decorated. During his service, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal and medals for service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He was also a son and a father. Newman leaves behind his parents and two children.

The burden of that loss is one a Powhatan mother knows well. Eileen Osmolski's son John was killed in Iraq in 2008, also when an IED exploded.

"Your heart just drops," she explained.

Osmolski, is also chaplain of Blue Star Families of Richmond," which is a support group for families of soldiers. She said the military's support services are crucial in navigating a tragedy like this one. "They rally around and they start to comfort you," she said. "And the ones that are close to your child that served with your son they are grieving too."

She said it will be important for staff Sgt. Newman's family to lean on others who know what they're going through.

"My tears are mingled with yours over the loss of your precious son," she described.

Newman joined the army in July 2003. He will be honored at a monthly remembrance ceremony at Fort Campbell, Kentucky in October.

Bethlehem Soldier Dies In Afghanistan

September 21, 2010 By Daniel Patrick Sheehan, OF THE MORNING CALL

Army Spc. Joshua A. Harton was a zombie movie-loving wise guy who was looking forward to getting out of the "crap hole" of Afghanistan in February but instead will be memorialized in a few days by his stricken relatives, who learned over the weekend that he had died in an ambush.

Harton, 23, died Saturday, according to his mother, Ruth Harton. Army representatives knocked on the door of her Bethlehem home early Sunday morning to break the news.

"We already knew," she said. "No one else comes to the door like that. As soon as I saw the uniforms, I knew."

Harton, who enlisted in the Army shortly before his 21st birthday, had served a tour in Iraq and had been recently stationed at Forward Operating Base Griffin in Afghanistan with the 10th Mountain Division's 3rd Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, based at Fort Drum, N.Y..

He spent three weeks at his mother's home in August and wrote an update on his Facebook page just before heading back to the war zone:

“So I am only one day until back at FOB Griffin, people should start writing me don't get to come online very often, only until FEB and I am out of this crap hole!!”

Harton died in Kaftar Khan of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms and rocket-propelled grenade fire, the Department of Defense reported Monday night. His mother said she was told his platoon was on its way back from patrol when it was ambushed and that Harton was the only casualty.

“He usually does the big guns on the turrets, on the armored vehicles,” she said. “He's usually in the rear, usually the go-to guy. Either he got jumped and had no time to react or he reacted and because he did, his squad was OK. That would make sense to me, because that was Josh. He's protecting their back.”

She said her son, who was born in Sellersville and attended school in the Lehigh Valley and Philadelphia, had always been fiercely loyal to his friends, at home and in the service.

“They're not siblings by blood, but he's got more brothers than I can count,” she said.

Harton's remains were to be returned to his family — besides his mother, he is survived by a sister, Jessica, and stepsister, Leia — at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

His mother said Harton, who loved zombie movies and playing a paintball-style game called Zombie Hill, left William Penn High School in Philadelphia before graduating but later obtained a general equivalency diploma.

She said he was a funny kid — “Oh, he was a wise-ass” — who liked puns and “make-you-think humor.”

“He would do a pun or joke and you wouldn't get it until five minutes later,” she remembered.

Living at home and working part-time for a delivery company, Harton was dissatisfied and decided to join the military. He planned to pursue a law-enforcement career when he was finished.

“He wasn't a flag-waving patriot,” his mother said, “but he was there to do his duty. It wasn't because of king and country, it was because he knew it was right.”

He stayed in touch by e-mail and phone. She missed her son's most recent call, on Friday.

Harton said her son's remains would be cremated and the memorial service will be private. He was a dog lover with a particular fondness for English bulldogs, so she asked that donations in her son's name be made to bulldog rescue groups or to the Lehigh County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

U.S. Soldier Severely Wounded In Kandahar



U.S. soldiers carry a comrade wounded by an explosion to a medevac helicopter in Kandahar province in southern Afghanistan October 2, 2010. REUTERS/Finbarr O'Reilly

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

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

**U.S. Military Supplies For Afghanistan
Still Forbidden To Move After Idiots In
U.S. Command Publicly Approved Killing
Of Three Pakistani Soldiers Inside
Pakistan By U.S. Forces**



Pakistani drivers sit on a front bumper of a truck carrying supplies for U.S. forces in Afghanistan parked with other trucks at a roadside near the boarder crossing with Afghanistan in Torkhum, Pakistan, Oct. 2, 2010. Trucks have been still waiting for Pakistan to reopen the border crossing in Torkham, closed after U.S. forces killed Pakistan soldiers. (AP Photo/Qazi Rauf)

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



U.S. Marines from 1st Light Armoured Reconnaissance Battalion patrol an area in Taghaz village in Helmand, Afghanistan September 9, 2010. REUTERS/Erik de Castro



U.S. Marines from 1st Light Armoured Reconnaissance Battalion patrol in front of centuries old ruins of a fortress in Taghaz village in Helmand, September 9, 2010. REUTERS/Erik de Castro

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

MILITARY NEWS

**NOT ANOTHER DAY
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**





The casket of Lance Cpl. Kevin Cornelius at Arlington National Cemetery Aug. 31, 2010. Cornelius of Ashtabula, Ohio, was killed in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Pentagon Traitors Running Wild: Combat Soldiers With PTS Being Kicked Out Of The Army For “Personality Disorders” With No Benefits: Army Wife Launches Organization To Fight Back

[Here it is again. Same old story. Used up, thrown away, and the politicians couldn't care less. To repeat for the 3,549th time, there is no enemy in Iraq or Afghanistan. Their citizens and U.S. troops have a common enemy. That common enemy owns and operates the Imperial government in Washington DC for their own profit. That common enemy started these wars of conquest on a platform of lies, because they couldn't tell the truth: U.S. Imperial wars are about making money for them, and nothing else. Payback is overdue. T]

“He said he cried, he thought of how he's going to support his family, and take care of his kids and pay his bills,” said Chaunsey Penrod, whose husband is being torn by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) from his service in Iraq.

Sep 28, 2010 by Rob Munoz, KXXV

FORT HOOD - The number of soldiers receiving discharge orders has some families feeling backed into a corner because they could potentially receive no benefits from their service.

“He said he cried, he thought of how he's going to support his family, and take care of his kids and pay his bills,” said Chaunsey Penrod, whose husband is being torn by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) from his service in Iraq.

Chaunsey Penrod's husband is diagnosed with post-traumatic stress; however, he's facing being discharged from the military under Chapter 5-17, what's called a “personality adjustment disorder.”

That would mean he wouldn't receive the benefits and medical care for his family that a PTSD discharge would receive. He also feared reprimand from superior officers that could potentially strip him of his rank and pay, so his wife felt she had no choice but to step forward.

Jackie Cartwright felt she had to do the exact same for her husband.

The Penrod's and the Cartwright's are just part of a booming trend among military families: soldiers discharged for “personality disorders,” instead of PTSD.

According to statistics obtained from the Pentagon, soldiers discharged for personality disorders have more than doubled over the past three years, from 1,453 in 2006 to 3,844 last year.

In that same time period, discharges from PTSD have dropped from 1,072 in 2006 to 260 in 2009.

Soldiers who have PTSD also display symptoms of any sort of personality disorder. The problem lies in the fact that the symptoms often overlap.

The issue has already attracted national attention. Senator Christopher Bond out of Missouri has pledged to take the issue to the Senate floor to reverse the trend of soldiers who feel they were unfairly given a personality discharge order.

The soldiers' wives we spoke with feel the same.

Cartwright has started a Facebook group called SUFAH – “Standing Up For America's Heroes,” in order to garner more attention to the issue of soldiers who feel they're being unfairly given personality discharges.

Her campaign has already attracted attention from Rick Perry's office. She says she has been contacted by a representative who also guided her to Senators John Cornyn and Kay Bailey Hutchison.

“Some one has to stand up, the soldiers stood up for us, so we have to stand up for them,” Cartwright said.

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

“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

Purple Heart For Moral Convictions



Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: September 27, 2010
Subject: Purple Heart For Moral Convictions

Purple Heart For Moral Convictions

**Pain so deep it cries a silent weep.
Camouflaged in fear afraid to speak.
In desperate hope a wounded heart revealed.
In Bradley Manning's courageous light no longer concealed.
Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
August 18, 2010**

**Like Vietnam, when the entire
war is a lie, there is no treason.
Bradley Manning was betrayed**

by his own country.
Lying Is The Most Powerful
Weapon In War.

Photo and caption from the I-R-A-Q (I Remember Another Quagmire) portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact at: (hastiemike@earthlink.net) T)

A True Hero Is Gone: Wounded By A Mine As A Marine In Vietnam, Roberto Resto “Employed His Moral Authority To Great Effect, Driving Home His Message Of Ardent Anti- Imperialism”



Roberto Resto (Al Brundage, Rochester Against War)

September 27, 2010 By Brian Erway, Socialist Worker

ON SEPTEMBER 20, a car accident tragically took the life of our friend and comrade, Roberto Resto. On his way to an early-morning doctor's appointment, Roberto lost control of his car and crashed into a tree. It was his 60th birthday.

Everyone who knew Roberto--and now I know that's a vaster number than I had ever imagined--faced, on hearing the news, not only the sharp sense of loss, but also a feeling of total surprise.

For Roberto suffered from--and carried on every day in spite of--manifold and overlapping afflictions: diabetes, heart surgery, Agent Orange exposure. He met them all with a stubborn cheerfulness and determination--and that also characterized his political work, through the course of an eventful lifetime that touched an amazing number of people.

Roberto did all this while at the same time raising and doting on his family.

Surviving him are his wife Iris Rivera, along with five children, nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

We were lucky to have shared with them a portion of Roberto's energy and enthusiasm.

BORN IN Puerto Rico, Roberto had lived in Rochester, N.Y., for about five years when we met in the course of protests against the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003.

He quickly joined the ISO and became a featured speaker in the early rallies and teach-ins against the war. He was a disabled veteran, wounded by a mine as a marine in Vietnam. On the podium, he employed his moral authority to great effect, driving home his message of ardent anti-imperialism, delivered in such a direct and unassuming way that no one dared challenge him.

Roberto already had considerable political experience prior to meeting us in the Rochester ISO. After leaving the military in 1970, he studied first in New Jersey, then obtained a degree in sociology from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico.

He was a participant in the protracted struggles of more than 300 families who made up "Villa sin miedo" (village without fear), a land-rescue community (comunidad de rescadadores de terreno). The families established a camp on unused land outside of San Juan and tried to set up permanent residences. But the government treated them as illegal squatters and, in 1980, sent in 500 police to storm the makeshift village and demolish the homes.

With the initial leaders of the movement in jail, Roberto stepped forward to help organize a campaign of resistance that eventually forced the Puerto Rican government's hand, compelling it to grant the families another parcel of land where they could settle. The Villa Sin Miedo, re-built, stands on this parcel to this day.

One of Roberto's most engaging qualities was the way he communicated a keen sense of the dignity and worth of ordinary working people, in everything he did.

As he recounted years later in an interview at Villa Sin Miedo, "Poor people and colonized people need to free themselves from chains of subordination and develop an awareness of their own powers. The people here are beginning to speak up, make their own rule and regulations, govern themselves."

Wherever he was, Roberto appeared in the thick of struggles for social justice. If he happened to be visiting Puerto Rico, he would turn up at a blockade over the U.S.

Navy's bombardment of Vieques--or, as he did last May, at the student occupation of the University of Puerto Rico campuses.

During the wonderful spring of 2006, with its huge and unprecedented marches for immigrant rights, Roberto was key to organizing two separate Rochester demonstrations a month apart, each one drawing some 800 people. Out of these mobilizations, he helped found the Rochester Alliance for Immigrant Rights, a group that carried on organizing against the daily repression by Border Patrol and ICE agents.

Not all of Roberto's demos were large. To him, the size was of little concern when a matter of principle was at stake--like our support for the struggle against U.S. colonialism in Puerto Rico.

Thus, he organized Rochester's protest at the Federal Building following the FBI's assassination of Puerto Rican nationalist leader Filiberto Ojeda Ríos in September 2005. Even though only a handful responded to the call and the rally program was no more than Roberto's monologue into the bullhorn, we all counted it as a success, and exulted a bit in having faced down the ridiculous number of cops assigned to protect the building from us.

It was Roberto's talent to be able to reach out and work with practically anybody else--though he was quick to spot a phony. He could be blunt to the point of discomfort, but he commanded people's respect, by being completely friendly and open and unassuming.

He was a political omnivore whose feeding habits placed him at the intersection of numerous causes and actions. Beyond his longstanding work in antiwar efforts, immigrant rights and Puerto Rican liberation, he was a presence at demonstrations for Palestine solidarity, LGBT rights, anti-police repression and solidarity with the Mott's strike, to name a few.

I guess what I treasure most in thinking of Roberto is how much he obviously enjoyed being a socialist--enmeshed in a set of politics and struggles whose goal is the self-emancipation of the vast majority. He took seriously the need to train himself politically, and he was constantly trying out the lessons from whatever Marxist classic he happened to be reading, injecting them into whatever topic was under discussion whenever he thought appropriate. Sometimes, these trials succeeded surprisingly well.

But whatever their success, Roberto saw himself entirely at home in the ISO, among a much younger, largely student crowd. He occasionally reminded me: "In this group, I feel the same as everybody. It keeps me young."

He had plans for staying healthy in order to be ready for the struggles he could see shaping up on the horizon. He described for me a minor triumph at managing to catch up on his International Socialist Review reading while walking on his treadmill.

Right now, we are all feeling an abrupt sense of loss that such a solid rock as Roberto is gone. His example as a comrade, a friend, a father and grandfather will live on with us and prove to be just as solid.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Two Plates Of Shit Available Just For You At This Class Restaurant Nov. 2 [Capitalist Class That Is]



Democratic Party rally at the Lincoln Memorial, Oct. 2, 2010, in Washington. (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)



Republican Party rally at the Lincoln Memorial August 28, 2010 (PHILLIP OCHS PHOTO/THE EAGLE)

CLASS WAR REPORTS



Capitalists At Work:

“Income Inequality Is At An All-Time High In The United States”
“An Enormous Portion Of The Gains Of Economic Growth Have Gone To Just A Few Thousand Hyper-Rich”
“The Wealth Of The Richest 400 Americans Increased By 8 Percent Last Year, To A Combined \$1.37 Trillion”

September 30, 2010 By Gary Lapon, Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

Income inequality is at an all-time high in the United States.

As noted in the Huffington Post's report on a study by Emmanuel Saez, in 2007, “The top .01 percent of American earners took home 6 percent of total U.S. wages, a figure that has nearly doubled since 2000...as of 2007, the top (10%) of American earners...pulled in 49.7 percent (of all income).”

Doug Henwood of Left Business Observer explains how it's possible that median household income increased by only 2 percent since 1989, while total Gross Domestic Product increased 63 percent.

Incomes for the top 5 percent went up 75 percent, with gains concentrated at the very top:

The top 1 percent was up over 100 percent.

The top 0.01 percent--the 12,000 or so richest households, with incomes averaging \$35 million a year--were up 215 percent...almost 30 times the increase of the bottom 90 percent of the population.

In other words, an enormous portion of the gains of economic growth have gone to just a few thousand hyper-rich.

The gap between rich and poor has widened into a chasm, and it's only getting worse.

The latest news, according to Forbes, is that the wealth of the richest 400 Americans increased by 8 percent last year, to a combined \$1.37 trillion.

While once upon a time, Obama talked tough about Wall Street, calling the executives and investors “fat cats,” in office, he continued the multi-trillion-dollar bailout of Wall Street and signed toothless financial reform legislation, while simultaneously doing next to nothing to ease the impact of the crisis on the majority of people.

And now, Obama is softening his rhetoric still further in response to criticism from the wealthy. As he said at the CNBC town hall meeting, “I’ve constantly said what sets America apart...is we’ve got the most dynamic free-market economy in the world. And that has to be preserved.”

While the anger of the wealthy has been making headlines--and eliciting a response from the politicians in Washington--the truth is that the anger of U.S. workers is very real and is directed at both parties of big business.

According to a recent Associated Press-GfK poll, support for both parties in Congress is hovering in the 30 percent range, and about six in 10 disapprove of the way both Democrats and Republicans are handling the economy.

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.

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/>

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