

Military Resistance 8K19

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



Hospital personnel unload a wounded U.S. Marine from a medevac helicopter at Camp Dwyer near the town of Marjah in Helmand Province, August 17, 2010. REUTERS/Bob Strong

Darrah-I-Bummed:
“Col. Mohammad Daud, The District Police Chief, Surveyed His Men With Evident Pride”
“Observing The Scene From The Nearby Shade, An American Soldier Reached A Different Conclusion”
“They’re Never In Uniform. They’re A Joke”

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

November 18, 2010 By Joshua Partlow, Washington Post Foreign Service [Excerpts]

MAQUR, AFGHANISTAN- They stood at attention in the gravel lot under a bright autumn sun, 22 Afghan police officers in matching bulletproof vests. All wore helmets, chin straps fastened, as they clutched their rifles to their chests with both hands.

Col. Mohammad Daud, the district police chief, surveyed his men with evident pride. A general would be arriving soon, and they were ready.

Observing the scene from the nearby shade, an American soldier reached a different conclusion.

“They’re fucking worthless,” he said.

“I’ve never seen them in any formation before,” he said. “They’re never in uniform.”

“They’re a joke.”

A few hundred yards above Daud’s police station in the deserts of Badghis province, Lt. Mirwais Safai, 29, smoked a cigarette and brooded over this partnership.

“I will tell you the truth,” he began. “The Americans themselves support the Taliban.”

For 52 days, Safai commanded an Afghan army platoon in Darrah-i-bum, a treacherous Taliban enclave, alongside a U.S. Special Operations team. Together they endured a string of attacks, from makeshift bombs to incoming rockets.

They began as trusted comrades in a dangerous fight, he said, but he soon grew suspicious of the Americans’ secrecy.

At one point, he said, U.S. troops were holding conversations with villagers in a clinic, and excluding the Afghan medic. “Spies were coming and going,” he said.

His fears grew Oct. 13, the night the parachutes fell from the sky.

The Americans recovered most of the airdropped supply crates, including water and ammunition, Safai said, but left one of them in the village.

Safai and his men found it the next day, pried it open and found it packed with mortars and boxes of explosives, he said. He photographed the contents and brought the crate to his American partner.

“He was yelling at me, ‘Why did you bring this here?’” Safai recalled. “When he saw the ammunition, he stopped yelling.”

“I said, ‘You were giving this to the Taliban,’ “ Safai said. “He said, ‘It was just a big mistake.’ “

Asked about this episode, Lt. Nicole Schwegman, a U.S. military spokeswoman in Kabul, said: "We do not, under any circumstances, provide supplies to the Taliban."

During the airdrop of 12 supply crates that night, she said, two collided, sending one container of water crashing into the wall of a villager's home. The U.S. troops apologized for the damage, she said, and offered compensation, as well as the water from the container. She said the 11 other loads were all recovered that night. "No ammunition or explosives were left unrecovered overnight," she said.

But Safai's superior, Capt. Mohammad Aref, stood by his story. "He's describing things he's seen with his own eyes," he said.

Safai has since left Darrah-i-bum, with his photographs of mortars and a lingering suspicion about his partners.

"I'm not sure if that ammunition was put there by mistake or intentionally to help the Taliban. That's something the government has to find out," he said.

"But if I'm representing the Afghan government, why are the Americans keeping secrets from us?"

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action: Rockets Hit Green Zone As Usual

November 16, 2010 CNN & Nov 17 (Reuters) & Nov 19 (Reuters) & Nov 20 (Reuters)

At least three rockets struck the heavily fortified International Zone in Baghdad, formerly known as the Green Zone, on Sunday evening, the official said.

MOSUL - Insurgents in a speeding car shot dead an off-duty oil facility guard near his house south of Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, a police officer from the Nineveh operations centre said.

FALLUJA - A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol wounded one policeman in Falluja, police said.

BAGHDAD - A bomb planted inside a stationary store exploded, killing two soldiers in southern Baghdad's Doura district, police said.

SHIRQAT - A sticky bomb attached to the car of an Iraqi army lieutenant colonel wounded two security guards but the army officer escaped unharmed in the town of Shirqat, police said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Ohio Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Spc. Jesse Adam Snow, 25, of Fairborn, Ohio, was one of five Fort Campbell soldiers who were killed in a battle Nov. 14, 2010 in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Indiana SSG Killed In Konar



Special Operations Staff Sgt. Kevin M. Pape, 20, of Fort Wayne, Ind. was killed Nov. 16, when Taliban forces opened small-arms fire on his unit in Afghanistan's Konar province. Pape served three deployments in Iraq and was on his third deployment to Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army Special Operations)

Illinois Marine Killed In Helmand



U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. James Stack, 20, of Arlington Heights, Ill., was killed Nov. 10, 2010, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. (AP Photo/Family handout via the Daily Herald)

North Carolina Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Pfc. Christian Michael Warriner, 19, of Mills River, N.C., was one of five Fort Campbell soldiers who were killed in a battle Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010 in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Tennessee Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Spc. Nathan Edward Lillard, 26, of Knoxville, Tenn. Was one of five Fort Campbell soldiers who were killed in a battle Nov. 14, 2010 in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Wisconsin Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Spc. Scott Thomas Nagorski, 27, of Greenfield, Wis., was one of five Fort Campbell soldiers who were killed in a battle Nov. 14, 2010 in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Michigan Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Spc. Shane Hasan Ahmed, 31, of Chesterfield, Mich., was one of five Fort Campbell soldiers who were killed in a battle Nov. 14, 2010 in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Bits Of Information About Resistance Attack That Killed Five U.S. Soldiers In Watapur Finally Trickle Out: “The Fighting Started Around 2 P.M. And Lasted At Least Six Hours, He Said, With The Wounded And The Killed Not Being Evacuated Until Late That Evening”

Watapur is just 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the Korengal valley, where U.S. troops ceased operations seven months ago, saying that it was not strategically important. Forty-two Americans died in Korengal before the troops pulled out.

11.18.2010 AP

KABUL, Afghanistan — NATO released Thursday the first details on an insurgent attack that killed five U.S. soldiers over the weekend, saying the Americans were trying to rout militants from a volatile valley in eastern Kunar province when they came under fire.

The five American soldiers who died Sunday were “conducting clearing operations” when they came under fire in Watapur valley, said Master Sgt. Brian Sipp, a spokesman for the international military alliance [translation: for the U.S. military command].

Sipp did not say how many troops were involved in the fight, nor provide an estimate of the number of attackers.

The fighting started around 2 p.m. and lasted at least six hours, he said, with the wounded and the killed not being evacuated until late that evening.

Another American soldier died in the area Tuesday when insurgents fired on his unit, according to the military.

All six deaths occurred during a four-day push called Operation Bulldog Bite to search out militants and weapons caches near the Pech river.

Watapur is just 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the Korengal valley, where U.S. troops ceased operations seven months ago, saying that it was not strategically important.

Forty-two Americans died in Korengal before the troops pulled out.

Three Afghan soldiers were also killed in the operation, said Gen. Khalilullah Zaiyi, the Kunar province police chief.

Family Reacts To Soldier’s Death: “He Didn’t Want To Be In Afghanistan, But He Did Want To Be With His Guys”

11/07/2010 By: Kaitlyn Lioni, TWEAN News Channel of Syracuse

WILLIAMSVILLE, N.Y. -- David Whipple’s family is dealing with a tragedy many can’t imagine; the loss of his 21-year-old son. Specialist Blake Whipple was killed Friday after his unit was attacked in Afghanistan. He had just spoken with his parents Tuesday on Skype.

“He told his mom, it’s getting a little dicey over here but whenever he talked about it, it wasn’t like there was any fear. And it wasn’t arrogance, like “I’m invincible”, it was confidence. He was a soldier. Well-trained, and he was going to do his job,” said David

Blake graduated from Williamsville East High School in 2007 and after giving college a try, he decided to join the army.

“When he joined the service, I think he was looking for something. I think he was looking for an avenue, a vehicle to maybe grow up a little bit and he found it,” said David.

His father describes him as someone whose smile could light up a room.

“The way I explain Blake to people is if you get a room full of 100 strangers, and you open the door and put Blake in, an hour and a half later he’ll come out and have 99 friends,” said David.

And that carried with him in the army, something he made clear to his parents when he was home on leave in September.

“He explained that when someone goes on leave over there, the rest of the guys gotta pitch in and take up the slack and he said, it’s time for me to go back because the guys need me.

“He didn’t want to be in Afghanistan, but he did want to be with his guys,” said David.

Whipple’s family members are supporting each other during this difficult time with the help of the army.

“I just want the people of Western New York to know that my son and my family have been given the greatest amount of respect, assistance, compassion, caring. My son is a hero, and they’re expressing that every day,” said David

David and his wife Kim will now wait for their son’s body to come home to Western New York, so they can honor their hero.

“No parent should ever have to bury their son or daughter but I’m burying my son, and I can’t tell you how proud I am,” said David.

Whipple is one of three Fort Drum soldiers to die in Afghanistan last week.

Sergeant Michael Paranzino, 22, of Rhode Island was killed in a separate attack in Kandahar Friday and on Wednesday, Sergeant First Class Todd Harris, 37, of Arizona died after he was wounded in a small arms attack.

Mesa Soldier Killed This Week Worried More About Others Than Himself

Nov 12, 2010 By Mike Sakal, East Valley Tribune

The uncle of a Mesa soldier killed in Afghanistan this week described his nephew as someone who loved his family and worried more about others than himself when he decided to join the Army.

Sgt. Aaron Cruttenden, 25, who had lived between Mesa and Colorado so he could spend time with his family, was killed in the violent Kunar Province on Sunday when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire, according to the Department of Defense.

Cruttenden's death marks the 24th casualty from the East Valley during the Middle Eastern conflicts and the second in the Kunar Province in less than two months. Army Pfc. Barbara Vieyra, 22, who grew up on a dairy farm in east Mesa, died from wounds suffered in the Kunar Province when insurgents attacked her unit using an improvised explosive device and rocket-propelled grenades, according to the Department of Defense.

Cruttenden was assigned to the 161st Engineer Support Company, 27th Engineer Battalion, 20th Engineer Brigade and served as a combat engineer during route clearance operations in an attempt to pave a safer environment for the soldiers that followed, according to information from Fort Bragg, N.C. where Cruttenden was stationed.

Cruttenden, who was described by his uncle, Paul White of White Electric in Mesa as a "happy-go-lucky, free spirit" and someone who loved his family, had been in the service since 2008, and was deployed to Afghanistan about eight months ago.

"I'm heartbroken," White told the Tribune on Wednesday. "We're all going between shock and sadness. He was a fine young man who was more worried about the people around him than himself. He was always smiling and willing to help. He never had a bad word for anybody."

Cruttenden is also survived by his mother, Yvonne Feathergill, of Hotchkiss, Colo.; his grandmother, Shirley Wencel of Apache Junction; and a 2 1/2-year-old daughter, Dusti-Rai Ferrin, who he better wanted to support, White said.

Cruttenden attended Thunderbird Academy in Scottsdale but dropped out of high school and obtained his GED. He spent summers in Colorado and the other seasons in Arizona, also earning him the distinction of being a young snowbird, his uncle said.

Before joining the Army, Cruttenden had worked for White Brothers Electric as an apprentice electrician for about two years before joining the service, White said.

"We all called him Moon," White said. "We joked about him kind of being a hippie. He had long hair and was kind of a free spirit. He didn't have a Volkswagen bus, but you could see him driving a Volkswagen bus. He weighed the pros and cons about joining the military and decided to do it. He was worried more about what his family would think about him joining the service than he was. He had a generous nature and friendliness in caring for people."

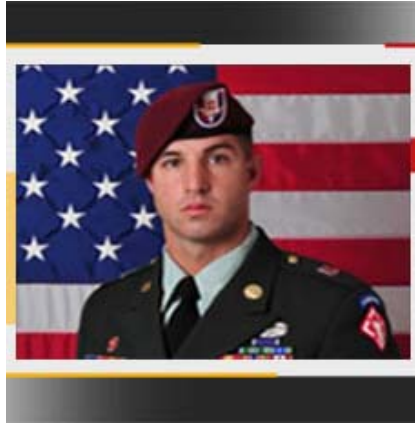
Cruttenden was awarded numerous medals posthumously including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, according to information from Fort Bragg.

White said he could see his nephew protecting the other soldiers around him.

“He died a hero, and for an honorable cause,” White said. “This is a tragic loss for the people around him who loved him. I’m proud of him.”

Cruttenden’s funeral services are pending and will be held in Colorado.

McAlester Soldier Remembered For Hard Work, Determination



Nov 10, 2010 Tara Vreeland, News On 6

MCALESTER, Oklahoma -- The McAlester community is mourning the loss of a fallen hero. Twenty-six-year-old Sergeant Jason McCluskey was killed in Afghanistan last week after insurgents attacked his unit.

Sergeant McCluskey's high school wrestling coach and mentor describe the soldier as quiet and hardworking.

“He was a brawler,” said Coach Brent Grilliout, McAlester varsity wrestling coach. “People in the wrestling world would say he’s a brawler. A legal brawler. He was tough.”

The last time McAlester High School wrestling coach and teacher Brent Grilliout saw Jason McCluskey was during wrestling season.

“Came up to the old gym. There he was like he was ready for practice, except he was in his uniform,” the coach said. “He told me that day, he said, ‘I’ll take care of conditioning for you.’ I said ‘all right.’”

McCluskey graduated from high school in 2004 and in 2006 hung up his wrestling singlet - for army fatigues.

“He was kind of stoic,” Coach Grilliout said. “Didn’t surprise me at all that he chose the military.”

“He really wanted to make a better life for himself. He wanted to do something with his life that he saw getting into the military as a pathway that he would have to do that,” said Joe Brawley, McAlester High School psychologist

School psychologist Joe Brawley saw McCluskey's hard work and determination down at Mike Deek Field.

“He would be down there running. He was getting himself in shape for the military and studying for the ASVAP and he was working in the oil fields to support himself at the same time. So he was a highly motivated young man,” Brawley said.

The Department of Defense says on November 4th Sergeant McCluskey was killed when insurgents attacked his unit in Afghanistan.

He was 26 years old.

“He certainly was a credit to his family and our community, and my thoughts are certainly with his family,” said Joe Brawley, McAlester school psychologist.

“As his senior quote he put, a James Dean quote: ‘Dream as if you will live forever. And live as if you will die today.’ I thought that was pretty profound and really represented Jason,” said high school wrestling coach Brent Grilliout.

Military Convoy For Foreign Occupiers In Afghanistan Attacked And Burned In Pakistan, As Usual



Trucks, used for supplying fuel and other war material for foreign military forces in Afghanistan, after they were attacked on November 20, 2010. Resistance fighters torched eight trucks near Pakistan's main northwestern city of Peshawar, police said. No casualties were reported REUTERS/Fayaz Aziz

U.S. OCCUPATION RECRUITING DRIVE IN HIGH GEAR; RECRUITING FOR THE ARMED RESISTANCE THAT IS

[Thanks to Michael Letwin & Mark Shapiro, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

November 19, 2010 By Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

The U.S. military is sending a contingent of heavily armored battle tanks to Afghanistan for the first time in the nine-year war, defense officials said, a shift that signals a further escalation in the aggressive tactics that have been employed by American forces this fall to attack the Taliban.

“Why do you have to blow up so many of our fields and homes?” a farmer from the Arghandab district asked a top NATO general at a recent community meeting.

NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization.

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

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

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

And join with Iraq Veterans Against the War to end the occupations and bring all troops home now! (www.ivaw.org/)

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



A U.S. Marine armoured vehicle in Musa Qala district in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province November 7, 2010. REUTERS/Finbarr O'Reilly

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

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

**“Led By Military Families,” 10,000 In
London March Against The War On
Afghanistan:**

“Bring Home The Troops And Bring Justice To The People Of Afghanistan”



'Afghanistan: Time to Go' Demonstration, London, Nov. 20, 2010. A strong protest spearheaded by military families descended on central London Saturday in a demonstration against the war in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Dominic Lipinski /PA)

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

20 November 2010 BBC [Excerpts]

Anti-war demonstrators have taken to the streets of London calling for an end to the Afghanistan conflict.

Thousands of protesters, led by military families, marched from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square.

Organisers of the Afghanistan Time to Go rally say the crowd was 10,000-strong at Trafalgar Square. The police would not give an estimate.

At Trafalgar Square the rally was addressed by a series of speakers, including Guardian commentator Seamus Milne.

“In Lisbon the Nato leaders will try to make it appear that they are bringing an end to this war, a war that is now in its 10th year,” he said.

“This talk of an exit strategy is clearly a sham.”

John Hilary, the executive director of War on Want, had this message for the government.

“We want the £11bn that is being spent on the war in Afghanistan to go on things we need in this country,” he said.

“Bring home the troops and bring justice to the people of Afghanistan.”

MORE:

**British Newspaper That Backs The War And The Government Discovers A Horrifying Truth:
“The Public Now Mourn Excessively The Soldiers Who Have Fallen In Battle — Who Are Seen Increasingly As The Victims, Not Of The Enemies Of This Country But Of Its Government That Commits Britain To Fight Wars Its People No Longer Support”**

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

November 19, 2010 By ALAN COWELL, The New York Times

LONDON — It has been that time of year when Britons of many ages pin red-paper poppies to their clothes to mourn their fallen soldiers.

And so ubiquitous are these floral emblems of remembrance — a record 46 million were sold this year to raise funds for veterans — that even the contestants and panelists in television game shows sport them. A hint of raised eyebrow is reserved for those who do not, as if their patriotism were somehow frail.

Initially, the poppies denoted respect for the soldiers who fell in World War I, evoking the battlegrounds that inspired a poem by John McCrae, a Canadian Army medical doctor, called “In Flanders Fields,” in 1915. His verse enjoined future generations to carry on the fight:

“If ye break faith with us who die/We shall not sleep, though poppies grow/In Flanders fields.”

And so, each year, on Nov. 11 — the day of the armistice that stilled the guns in 1918 — the poppies renew a vow that also came to embrace the dead of World War II.

As Britain marked Remembrance Sunday on Nov. 14, word came from Afghanistan of the latest casualty, Ranger Aaron McCormick of the Royal Irish Regiment, killed by an explosion in Helmand Province at age 22.

His death was the 344th among the British contingent (compared to 1,393 among Americans) since the fighting started in late 2001.

Two-thirds of those British casualties have come in the last two years as the war has intensified.

But what exactly is being commemorated in a time of unpopular wars whose rationale has rarely been convincingly explained to many Britons?

Consider, for instance, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, 75, the royal music composer, who made it known this year that he would not be wearing a poppy.

One of his most recent compositions in 2009 marked the death at age 111 of Harry Patch, the last British veteran of World War I in Britain who turned from foot-soldier to pacifist. Mr. Patch's narrative, Sir Peter said, led him to contemplate and question "the wider authentication of Remembrance Day."

"Our involvement in the first two world wars was defensive, and those in Afghanistan and Iraq are aggressive," Sir Peter wrote.

"That is a fundamental difference. I cannot support unjustified bloodshed, and politicians have spun the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq into Remembrance Day as a way of justifying them alongside the legitimate previous wars."

Indeed, there are many who seem to support the soldiers but not the cause they are fighting for.

While Britons once saw themselves as fighting wars they would most likely win with a broadly beneficial outcome, the columnist Melanie Phillips wrote in *The Daily Mail*, a conservative newspaper, "that consensus was broken with the war in Iraq — and may never be repaired."

"The result has been that the public now mourn excessively the soldiers who have fallen in battle — who are seen increasingly as the victims, not of the enemies of this country but of its government that commits Britain to fight wars its people no longer support."

“Public Support For Operations In Afghanistan Has Been Dwindling Across

Europe, With Leaders Often Bucking Public Opinion”

[Headline translation: the fake “Western democracies” exposed again as mere dictatorships of, by and for Empire-loving, soldier-killing rat politicians. T]

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

November 18, 2010 By Laura King and Henry Chu, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts]

Public support for operations in Afghanistan has been dwindling across Europe, with leaders often bucking public opinion.

“The Europeans have been asking themselves the questions that Americans are now beginning to ask: ‘Why? What’re we there for? What exactly do we want to achieve?’ “ said Giles Merritt, director of Security & Defense Agenda, a Brussels-based think tank.

With more than a month remaining, 2010 has already been the war’s bloodiest year to date for Western forces.

MILITARY NEWS

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





The funeral for Army Spc. Blake D. Whipple in Amherst, N.Y., Nov. 15, 2010. Spc. Whipple, a combat engineer, died in the explosion of a roadside bomb while he was on patrol in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan. He was 21. (AP Photo/David Duprey)

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



“The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose.”

“At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation’s ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.

“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”

Frederick Douglass, 1852

**Hope for change doesn't cut it when you're still losing buddies.
-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

**I say that when troops cannot be counted on to follow orders because they see the futility and immorality of them THAT is the real key to ending a war.
-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace**

**“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”
-- Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787**

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

**A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners.
-- Leon Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution**

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

**It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.
-- Larry Christensen, Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers**

Flushing American History Down The Toilet



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: November 17, 2010
Subject: Flushing American History Down The Toilet

Flushing American History Down The Toilet

I recently spoke in a college university class on the subject of the Vietnam War. This was not a Cheap-Charlie school. The class was made up of 32 juniors. Not one of them ever heard of the My Lai Massacre. No hands went up when I asked them about this major U.S. historical event. As I write these words,

probably the majority of the
American people still think that
Iraq was responsible for September 11th.
This is how Empires fall.

Day after day,
week after week,
month after month,
year after year,
I see America dying.

Why?

Because America spends more money on
war and destruction than it does on the
sacred living of life.

So many of us know this,
but so very few people ever get
out of bed to stop it.

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

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

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head.
The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a
so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen
of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
December 13, 2004

**“Destroying Large Parts Of Kandahar
Is A Sign Of Growing US Frustration
And A Sense The War Is Being Lost”
“It Certainly Won’t Win Hearts And Minds
Of The Locals”**

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

Like the rest of the Pentagon, Petraeus is determined that the mighty US military must not be defeated by Afghan tribesmen. The humiliation would be intolerable.

November 20, 2010 By Eric S. Margolis, Uruknet [Excerpts]

Amazing as it sounds, NATO, the world's most powerful military alliance, may be losing the only war the 61-year old pact every fought. All its soldiers, heavy bombers, tanks, helicopter gunships, armies of mercenaries, and electronic gear are being beaten by a bunch of lightly-armed Afghan farmers and mountain tribesmen.

The US is using the same punitive tactics in Afghanistan and Iraq as Israel employs on the occupied West Bank: targeted assassinations, death squads, demolishing buildings and whole neighborhoods to punish and open fields of fire. In fact, the US military has often been guided by Israeli advisors in such operations.

Destroying large parts of Kandahar is a sign of growing US frustration and a sense the war is being lost. It certainly won't win hearts and minds of the locals, the stated goal of US proconsul Gen. David Petraeus.

Like the rest of the Pentagon, Petraeus is determined that the mighty US military must not be defeated by Afghan tribesmen. The humiliation would be intolerable.

Defeat in Afghanistan would bring demands for major cuts in the bloated US military, a Leviathan that consumes 50% of world military spending.

The defeat of Soviet armies in Afghanistan in 1989 began the collapse of the Soviet Empire.

Could the same fate be in store for the American Raj?

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

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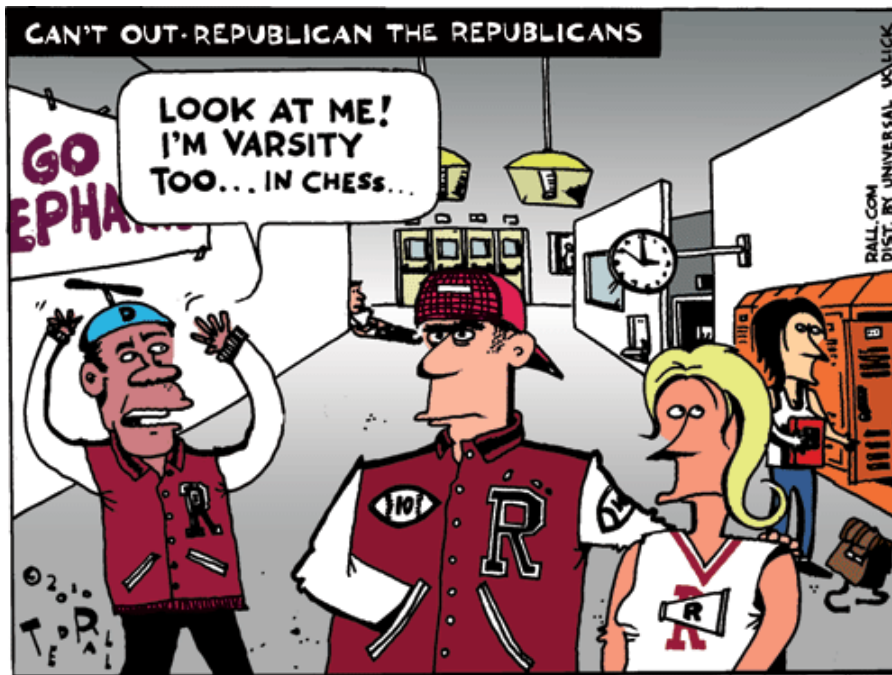
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email contact@militaryproject.org

Comment Unnecessary



A demonstrator against the war on Afghanistan participates in a rally in Lisbon, Portugal, Nov. 19, 2010. (AP Photo/ Francisco Seco)

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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.

Vietnam GI: Reprints Available



Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War

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Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command. The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

Military Resistance has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

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