

## Military Resistance 8K22



**[Not From The Onion]  
Occupation Command Spent  
“Months” Negotiating With A Con  
Man Pretending To Be A Senior  
Taliban Leader:  
“It’s Not Him”  
“And We Gave Him A Lot Of Money”**

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

November 22, 2010 By DEXTER FILKINS and CARLOTTA GALL, New York Times  
[Excerpts]

KABUL, Afghanistan — For months, the secret talks unfolding between Taliban and Afghan leaders to end the war appeared to be showing promise, if only because of the appearance of a certain insurgent leader at one end of the table: Mullah Akhtar Muhammad Mansour, one of the most senior commanders in the Taliban movement.

But now, it turns out, Mr. Mansour was apparently not Mr. Mansour at all.

In an episode that could have been lifted from a spy novel, United States and Afghan officials now say the Afghan man was an impostor, and high-level discussions conducted with the assistance of NATO appear to have achieved little.

“It’s not him,” said a Western diplomat in Kabul intimately involved in the discussions. “And we gave him a lot of money.”

American officials confirmed Monday that they had given up hope that the Afghan was Mr. Mansour, or even a member of the Taliban leadership.

NATO and Afghan officials said they held three meetings with the man, who traveled from in Pakistan, where Taliban leaders have taken refuge.

The fake Taliban leader even met with President Hamid Karzai, having been flown to Kabul on a NATO aircraft and ushered into the presidential palace, officials said.

Since the last round of discussions, which took place within the past few weeks, Afghan and American officials have been puzzling over who the man was.

Some officials say the man may simply have been a freelance fraud, posing as a Taliban leader in order to enrich himself.

Others say the man may have been a Taliban agent.

“The Taliban are cleverer than the Americans and our own intelligence service,” said a senior Afghan official who is familiar with the case. “They are playing games.”

Publicly, the Taliban leadership is sticking to the line that there are no talks at all. In a recent message to his followers, Mullah Omar denied that there were any talks unfolding at any level.

“The cunning enemy which has occupied our country, is trying, on the one hand, to expand its military operations on the basis of its double-standard policy and, on the other hand, wants to throw dust into the eyes of the people by spreading the rumors of negotiation,” his message said.

Sayed Amir Muhammad Agha, a onetime Taliban commander who says he has left the Taliban but who acted as a go-between with the movement in the past, said in an interview that he did not know the tale of the impostor.

But he said the Taliban leadership had given no indications of a willingness to enter talks.

**“Someone like me could come forward and say, ‘I am a Talib and a powerful person,’ “ he said. “But I can tell you, nothing is going on.”**

**“Whenever I talk to the Taliban, they never accept peace and they want to keep on fighting,” he said.**

**“They are not tired.”**

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## **IRAQ WAR REPORTS**

### **Resistance Action**

November 21, 2010 CNN & Nov 22 (Reuters) & Nov 23 (Reuters)

BAGHDAD - Armed men using a silencer killed an employee of the Ministry of Higher Education in the northern part of the city, an Interior Ministry source said.

BAGHDAD - Armed men using a silencer killed a civil servant working for the Ministry of Municipalities, in his car, in the centre of the city, an Interior Ministry source said.

MOSUL - Armed men attacked an Iraqi army checkpoint with hand grenades in the western part of the city, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, wounding one soldier. The soldiers responded killing two of the attackers, police said.

RAMADI - A sticky bomb attached to his car killed Colonel Karim al-Hiti, the head of the passport office in Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) west of Baghdad, police said.

Two roadside bombs targeting a police patrol in northern Baghdad's Kadhimiya neighborhood detonated in quick succession on Sunday evening, wounding at least five three policemen, the official said.

BAGHDAD - A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol wounded a soldier in the Ghazaliya district of western Baghdad, an Interior Ministry source said.

TUZ KHURMATO - Two roadside bombs exploded simultaneously and killed an Iraqi soldier at a temporary base for the Iraqi army in Tuz Khurmato, 170 km (105 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

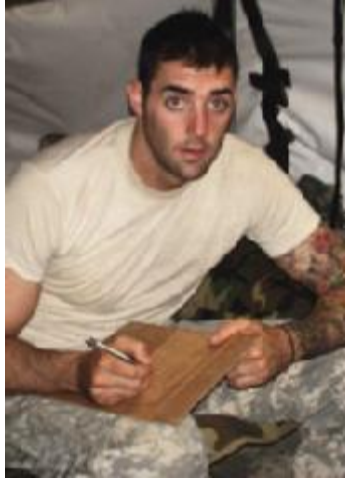
SAMARRA - A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi police patrol wounded a policeman late on Monday in Samarra, 100 km (62 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

BAGHDAD - Two government employees were killed and two wounded in their car in a drive-by shooting in central Baghdad late on Monday, an Interior Ministry source said.

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# **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

## **Local Soldier Killed In Afghanistan**



Sean Flannery

November 23, 2010 WGAL

Sean Flannery was killed over the weekend, but so far News 8 does not have any details of how he was killed.

Flannery was a 1999 graduate of Wyomissing High School, where a moment of silence was held for him Tuesday.

News 8 spoke to one of Flannery's aunts, who said he was on his third tour of duty.

Flannery's father served in Vietnam and his brother is currently serving in the Army.

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## **Norfolk Soldier Dies In Afghanistan**

November 23, 2010 By Corinne Reilly, The Virginian-Pilot

A soldier from Norfolk has been killed in Afghanistan, the military said this afternoon.

The body of Army Spc. William K. Middleton is scheduled to arrive in the United States on Wednesday, the Air Force said.

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## **Soldier's Family Filled With Sorrow, Pride**

November 19, 2010 By Alaina Potrikus, The Post-Standard

Jeanine and Walter Bolen said the week since their son's death has been filled with laughter and tears.

Neighbors have been a constant fixture at the Chittenango home of Jeanine Bolen's mother on Lonsdale Road — stopping by with casseroles, full crockpots and condolences.

The phone hasn't stopped ringing.

"Everyone is afraid to pick it up," Jeanine Bolen said Wednesday, scrolling through photographs on Facebook of her son's wedding and honeymoon, shaking her head in grief.

The couple said there is some comfort in the cacophony.

"It sort of blows us away," Walter Bolen said. "We thought of Eddie as our son first and a sergeant in the Army second. It has sort of flipped now.

"The tears of sorrow have kind of morphed into tears of pride," he continued. "It has been helpful."

The outpouring of support also has brought new stories of Army Sgt. Edward Bolen's service to his country. The Bolens said their son never talked about his time in the field, never mentioned the long list of awards he had received for valor.

"He wiped his feet when he came home," Walter Bolen said. "He had the ability to leave it on the battlefield, leave it where it was supposed to be left."

Edward Bolen joined the Army four years ago, a few credits shy of his business degree at SUNY Cortland.

"He wasn't sure of his spot in life," Walter Bolen said. "But Eddie was a leader. He enthusiastically embraced whatever he was doing."

He found his future in his new wife, Andrea Perez of Blauvelt, who endured the separation of his basic training and a 15-month deployment to Iraq. The couple planned to settle in New York state after Bolen's tour of Afghanistan.

"She completed him," Walter Bolen said. "... My heart breaks for her."

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## **Glenwood High Graduate Killed In Afghanistan**

Nov 06, 2010 By AMANDA REAVY, THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Two days after U.S. Army Specialist James “Chad” Young of Rochester was killed in Afghanistan, his family continued to struggle with the shock of his death.

“You see this every day on TV, but it doesn’t hit home until it hits your house,” Young’s brother, Steven Baptist, said through tears while gathered with other family members at his Auburn home Friday afternoon.

“I never would have thought it would be Chad.”

Young, a 25-year-old Glenwood High School graduate, was fatally wounded when insurgents attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device Wednesday in Kandahar province in southern Afghanistan, according to the Department of Defense.

He was assigned to the 863rd Engineer Battalion. It was his second tour in Afghanistan.

Young’s family was notified of his death Wednesday, less than two weeks after he had been home for a 15-day leave.

Relatives said Friday they knew Young as a dependable brother, uncle and a friend with a playful streak. They also remembered him as a soldier who accepted his duty head-on.

Young is the son of Brett and Jerry Young of Rochester. His parents and Young’s sister, Katie Robbins, traveled to Dover Air Force Base, Del., Thursday night for the arrival of Young’s body.

Steven Baptist is Chad Young’s older brother by about 10 years. They share the same mother.

Steven Baptist’s two brothers on his father’s side, Bohdon and Chase Baptist, said though Chad Young was not related to them by blood, they considered him family.

“The four of us, we always looked at ourselves as real brothers,” Bohdon Baptist of Auburn said. “We just want Chad remembered. He was a great person. He led a great life so all of his family could live in a free world.”

Chad Young was the baby of the group, but he was the one they looked up to, and not just because of his 6-foot-4 frame.

“He’s the greatest guy,” Bohdon Baptist said.

Young grew up in the Rochester area and attended Ball-Chatham schools, graduating from Glenwood High School in 2003.

Jim Mlinar, an industrial technology teacher at Glenwood High School, had Young in two of his classes. Mlinar recalled him as a tall, lanky kid with a great sense of humor.

“He was just somebody you were happy to see everyday,” he said.

Mlinar said Young used to come to class and tell the same pirate joke everyday: “What was the pirate’s favorite letter of the alphabet? Rrrr.”

“After several weeks of that, I started coming up with pirate jokes, like ‘Why couldn’t the pirate get into the movie? Because it was rated Rrrr.’

“For years after that, students were always coming up to me and asking for pirate jokes and Chad’s the person that started that,” he said.

Young was a smart student, Mlinar said, one he described as goofy but always behaved.

“I always think that a student like that, whether they know it or not, is a good role model because they’re not causing problems,” he said. “They’re a leader without knowing they’re a leader.”

Steven Baptist said Young’s high school years were when the two of them became close.

He and other relatives burst into laughter when they recalled Young’s punk style of dress as a teenager, which included cut-off, shredded clothing and plenty of piercings.

“He made his own clothes,” Steven Baptist said.

And though his style drastically changed after he entered the military, Young remained the same fun-loving person, his relatives said.

Young joined the Army in 2004. He served in Korea before deploying to Afghanistan for the first time. He returned in late 2007.

“After he went on his first tour, he went on inactive reserve status and it was a year. And then, he was called back to the active Army,” said Young’s girlfriend, Maria Millburg of Springfield.

Young arrived in Afghanistan for the second time in early June.

He was trained as a combat engineer and parts of his deployments were spent in a special route-clearance vehicle called a Husky that would travel in front of a convoy and detonate or defuse land mines, explosives or other obstructions in the road, Millburg said.

“If you heard him talk about it, it was no big deal,” Steven Baptist said.

“He was always the one telling everybody else it was going to be OK,” Millburg said.

Young surprised Millburg and his mother when he returned home for leave earlier than expected Oct. 10.

From then until Oct. 25, Young visited friends and family members, including his three nieces and nephew. He also played some poker, one of his favorite pastimes.

Young returned to his forward operating base in Afghanistan Oct. 29. He was killed five days later.

“I’m just glad we all got to see him before it happened,” Steven Baptist said.

Young's relatives say they are most proud of his bravery and the way he touched others' lives, something demonstrated by a memorial Facebook page for Young.

"I'm just glad he didn't go unrecognized," Bohdon Baptist said.

**Specialist James "Chad" Young, 25, of Rochester is the fourth soldier with central Illinois ties to die in Afghanistan in less than four months.**

Staff Sgt. Josh Powell, 25, of Pleasant Plains was among nine service members who died Sept. 21 in a helicopter crash during combat operations in Zabul Province, Afghanistan. It was his third deployment and second stint in Afghanistan. He was a 2003 graduate of Pleasant Plains High School.

Sgt. Matthew W. Weikert, 29, of Jacksonville was killed July 17 when his unit was attacked by an improvised explosive device. Weikert was a 2000 graduate of Jacksonville High School and had been deployed to Iraq four times before being sent to Afghanistan.

Sgt. Donald "Rocky" Edgerton, 33, a 1995 Riverton High School graduate, died July 10 — the day after his birthday — in another IED attack. Edgerton joined the Army at age 30 after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

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**“In Kandahar And Helmand  
Provinces — Two Battle Areas Where  
Winning Over The Population Is Key  
— 40% Believe International Forces  
Aim To Destroy Islam Or Occupy  
Afghanistan”  
“They Are The Problem — The  
Foreigners”**

Nov 21, 2010 By Deb Riechmann, The Associated Press [Excerpts]

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. and NATO forces will stay in Afghanistan for at least another four years, yet there are growing signs that the West has worn out its welcome.

The reasons for Afghan patience running out are numerous. Progress against insurgents is mixed at best.



Tactics like night raids on homes to capture militants fuel resentment in a society with a centuries-long tradition of resistance to foreign domination.

“I don’t think NATO has done much good,” said Siyal Khan Farahi, a 39-year-old contractor in Kandahar in the south, where the Taliban insurgency was born. “They are spending millions of dollars over here but I don’t see many signs of prosperity or anything that can change the people’s standard of life.”

“America calls itself a superpower, but they can’t control these insurgents so they should leave this place.”

### **Bitterness has even bubbled up among factions that fought side-by-side with the West to topple the Taliban in 2001.**

One recent day, a group of former fighters loyal to Ahmad Shah Massoud — the famed anti-Taliban commander killed by suicide bombers just two days before the Sept. 11 attacks — railed against U.S. involvement, saying they caused civilian deaths and had at times disrespected Afghan culture and the Muslim faith.

Standing at Massoud’s marble tomb in the Panjshir Valley, they watched as American soldiers took off their combat boots and walked around taking snapshots of the tomb.

“They are the problem — the foreigners,” one of the former fighters, Mohammad Mahfuz whispered as he pointed their way. “They came here for their own security and are making life difficult for the nation.”

Suspicion of Western motives is deep in some areas. An informal October survey of 1,000 people in Kandahar and Helmand provinces — two battle areas where winning over the population is key — found that 40 percent believe international forces aim to destroy Islam or occupy Afghanistan.

There is also resentment against Western aid workers, who live in heavily guarded upscale homes, shop in expensive Western-style supermarkets and drive large vehicles with tinted windows.

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## **Tea Party, Afghanistan Style**

November 22, 2010 By Jeremy Kelly, The Australian [Excerpt]

On a patrol to seek out Taliban insurgents during a moonless night, the Afghan police with a squad of US soldiers trudge through villages, across hills and through canals.

The Afghan police all leave their body armour back at the checkpoint. “Too heavy,” one of them explains.

During a recent massive operation involving hundreds of Diggers [Australian soldiers], Afghan and US troops and Afghan police to clear an insurgent haven north of Tarin Kowt, the police were far from active.

Guarding a road leading out of the area, they treated Operation Boston as a tea party, pulling out mattresses to lie on while others brewed chai.

US lieutenant Jeremy Gilbert had to rally them to search cars and trucks coming down the road.

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



Foreign occupation soldiers from the USA publicly humiliate elderly Afghan citizens by putting their hands on their bodies after stopping them at gunpoint on a public road in West Now Ruzi village, district of Panjwai, Afghanistan, Nov. 22, 2010. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko)

Afghani citizens have no right to resist humiliating public body touching by occupation soldiers from the USA. If they do, they may be arrested, wounded, or killed.

**Foreign occupation soldiers from the USA make a daily practice of publicly humiliating Afghan citizens.**

**This encourages self-respecting honorable Afghans to kill them.**

Villagers complained of indignities imposed by the foreign forces, the arrest and killing of civilians, house searches that violate the ethnic Pashtuns' sense of honor and the sanctity of the home, **and checkpoints where they are forced to lift up their shirts, which is deeply shaming for Afghans**, to show that they are not carrying explosives. -  
- May 16, 2010, Carlotta Gall, The New York Times

[Fair is fair. Let's bring 94,000 Afghan troops over here to the USA.

[They can kill people at checkpoints, bust into their houses with force and violence, bomb and butcher their families, overthrow the government, put a new one in office they like better and "detain" anybody who doesn't like it in a military prison endlessly without any charges being filed against them, or any trial.

[Those Afghans are sure a bunch of backward primitives.

[They actually resent this help, have the absurd notion that it's bad their country is occupied by a foreign military dictatorship killing them wholesale, and consider it their patriotic duty to fight and kill the soldiers sent to grab their country.

[What a bunch of silly people.

[How fortunate they are to live under a military dictatorship run by Barrack Obama.

[Why, how could anybody not love that?

[You'd want that in your home town, right?]

## **NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization.

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

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

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

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

**THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR  
HEALTH;  
ALL HOME, NOW**



A U.S. Marine from the First Battalion, Eighth Marines during a battle against Taliban insurgents in Musa Qala district in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province November 7, 2010. REUTERS/Finbarr O'Reilly



U.S. Marines carry stretchers as they run to pick up their wounded comrade during a Medevac mission in southern Afghanistan's Helmand Province November 8, 2010. REUTERS/Peter Andrews



Marines of 3rd Battalion 5th Marines, First Marine Division, take cover under fire Nov. 10, 2010 in Sangin, Afghanistan (AP Photo/Dusan Vranic)



U.S. Marines help their wounded comrade to a helicopter while under fire during a Medevac mission in southern Afghanistan's Helmand Province November 10, 2010. REUTERS/Peter Andrews



U.S. Marines help their wounded comrade to a helicopter while under fire during a Medevac mission in southern Afghanistan's Helmand Province November 10, 2010. REUTERS/Peter Andrews

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

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

## **SOMALIA WAR REPORTS**

### **Occupation Troops Slaughter Unarmed Civilians In Mogadishu**

11.23.10 Mareeeg.com

MOGADISHU

The African Union troops AMISOM have intentionally fired to civilians traveling between Aden Adde airport and KM4 intersection in the capital on Tuesday, killing two, wounding many others.

The people were injured around Kalunka neighborhood near Aden Adde airport in Mogadishu as they were at their business centers while more others were traveling in the areas.

Sources confirmed that two of the wounded civilians died in the hospital while many others were reportedly in a serious condition.

There had also been more public traffic traveling on the street as AMISOM's convoy opened fired to all the people in the areas and left away shortly after when they killed the people.

"It was surprise accident indeed. AMISOM did not do any favor for us today. I was the only one escaped from the incident. There were more wounded at here today. They were in a very critical condition. A teacher was one of those who were injured here. The fire broke his leg and I could see the bones of his lag remaining where the bullets hit," said one of the eyewitness women in the area.

The incident is part of the continuous actions that AMISOM troops kill the civilians in Mogadishu. There is no one who count with or ask about the murder of the Somali people in Mogadishu.

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## **MILITARY NEWS**

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



Nov. 18, 2010: The casket of Marine Lance Cpl. James Stack, 20, of Arlington Heights, Ill., on arrival at Chicago Executive Airport in Wheeling, Ill. Stack was killed Nov. 10, 2010, in Helmand province in Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. (AP Photo/Daily Herald, George LeClaire)

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## ALL Home Now!



Spc. Nathaniel Lord of Waterbury Center, Vt., gets hug from his wife, Brynn, as his son Alexander watches during a homecoming for Vermont National Guard troops on, Nov. 22, 2010 in South Burlington, Vt. Forty soldiers returned to the state Monday after a year away from home serving nine months in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Toby Talbot)

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## **New Death Brings Total Of Kids Dead In Fort Bragg Housing To Eleven: Agencies Are Testing The Houses Where The Children Died “In Unexplained Circumstances”**

Nov 23, 2010 The Associated Press

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — A 5-month-old child living in Fort Bragg housing has become the 11th infant since 2007 to die in unexplained circumstances at the post.

The Fayetteville Observer reports the unidentified child died Saturday. Fort Bragg officials announced the death Monday.



Col. Kevin Arata says the post wouldn't normally discuss such deaths. He says officials are doing so in this case because of an ongoing investigation into the unexplained deaths of 10 other infants in Fort Bragg housing.

Fort Bragg officials say the death toll is not unusual for a community of its size. But the Army Criminal Investigation Command and other agencies are testing the houses where the children died.

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## **Britain's Last Surviving WW1 Veteran "Has No Interest In Marking The Anniversary Of The End Of The First World War"**

### **"He Said Wars Were Planned By Old Men And Fought By Young Men, And That They Were A Stupid Waste Of Time And Energy"**

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

20th November 2010 Evesham Journal

BRITAIN'S last surviving First World War veteran will didn't mark Remembrance Sunday - because he has become a pacifist.

Claude Choules, 109, from Wyre Piddle, near Pershore, is the only man left who saw active service in both world wars.

Now living in Perth, Australia, his family has revealed that he has no interest in marking the anniversary of the end of the First World War on November 11, 1918.

Son Adrian Choules, 75, said: "He used to say that while he was serving in the war he was trained to hate the enemy, but later he really grew to understand that they were just young blokes the same as him.

"He said wars were planned by old men and fought by young men, and that they were a stupid waste of time and energy.

"As he has got older he has become more and more anti-war."

Claude's daughter, Daphne Edinger, 82, said the rest of the family would not be marking the day either.

"If Dad wants to forget, we're quite happy to forget it as well," she said.

Since leaving the Navy in 1956 Claude Choules has refused to march in Anzac Day parades in his adopted home of Australia, and has become increasingly pacifist.

The siblings said they wanted Mr Choules to be remembered as a dedicated seaman, a "sensitive, understanding" family man and, despite 41 years of service in the armed forces, a pacifist who strongly opposed war.

After the death of Harry Patch in 2009, Claude became the only known surviving British combatant in the First World War. He is the only remaining witness to the surrender of the German fleet in 1918, and the scuttling of their ships at Scapa Flow.

A demolition expert during the Second World War, he was entrusted with giving the signal to sink the local fleet if the Japanese entered Fremantle Harbour.

Born in 1901 in Wyre Piddle, Worcestershire, he is the only man left in the world who saw active service in both world wars and, after emigrating to Perth in 1926, is believed to be Australia's oldest man.

Claude, who was still walking and swimming daily at the age of 100, and only moved into a nursing home when he was 105, is no longer as active as he once was. Daphne believes that her father is on "a downward spiral".

He now spends most of his time in bed in a bright room on the first floor of the neat, modern nursing home in Perth's southern suburbs. His children believe that he was blessed with extremely hardy genes and helped by the fact that he has lived an active life.

"Two years ago, I went to see him and he was sleeping," said son Adrian. "I tried to wake him up but I couldn't.

"I thought he must have died. So I felt for his pulse and there it was pounding away boom, boom, boom. I felt it would go on and on forever."

## **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**

# Pentagon Reports No Gays Were Discharged In Past Month

Nov 23, 2010 By Lisa Leff, The Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO — No U.S. service members have been discharged for being openly gay in the month since the Defense Department adopted new rules surrounding the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, a Pentagon spokeswoman said Monday.**

**Under new rules adopted Oct. 21, Defense Secretary Robert Gates put authority for signing off on dismissals in the hands of the four service secretaries.**

Before then, any commanding officer at a rank equivalent to a one-star general could discharge gay enlisted personnel under the 1993 law that prohibits gays from serving openly in uniform.

Pentagon spokeswoman Cynthia Smith told The Associated Press that no discharges have been approved since Oct. 21.

**Based on historical trends, however, it appears the change, as well as moves by Gates and President Barack Obama to get Congress to repeal “don’t ask, don’t tell,” has caused discharge rates to fall dramatically, said Aaron Belkin, executive director of Palm Center, a pro-repeal think tank based at the University of California, Santa Barbara.**

**“Statistically, it would be extremely unlikely if we had a month in which there were no gay discharges,” Belkin said, noting that 428 gay and lesbian service members were honorably discharged under the ban in 2009.**

A month without “don’t ask, don’t tell” discharges was welcome news, said Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. Still, the organization continues to hear daily from military personnel who are under investigation for being gay and face the possibility of being fired.

“We have clients who are still under investigation, who are still having to respond, and in fact we have a client under investigation right now under suicide watch,” Sarvis said. “So ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ has not gone away.”

**Gates announced the change requiring the top civilian officials with the armed forces to personally approve “don’t ask, don’t tell” discharges after a federal judge in California ordered the military to immediately stop enforcing its ban on openly gay troops, declaring the 17-year-old policy unconstitutional.**

**Military Resistance Available In PDF Format**

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org)

## 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**

**“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*

**“After Two Years, One Would Think That Folks On The Left Would Have Gotten The Idea That Obama Is Pro-Pentagon, Pro-Wall Street, And Doesn’t Have A Transformative Bone In His Body Regarding Either Race Or Class”**



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

11/16/2010 By Black Agenda Report executive editor Glen Ford

For two years we watched Barack Obama undercut the left wing of his party at every turn, with a disdain so palpable his minions could not resist insulting leftists in the most juvenile terms.

For two years we watched the First Black President facilitate the greatest transfer of wealth in human history – \$12 to \$14 trillion – to Wall Street, and we watched as he put the U.S. war machine back on the offensive in the world.

For two years we heard Obama say over and over again that he had no intention of taking targeted action to help Black and brown communities that had been targeted for destruction by banks.

After two years, one would think that folks on the Left would have gotten the idea that Obama is pro-Pentagon, pro-Wall Street, and doesn't have a transformative bone in his body regarding either race or class.

But, for many, the message, however obvious, has not sunk in.

Rather than face the fact that Obama is not a friend of the people, leftist commentators insist on conducting a psychological analysis of the president. They seem to be trying to find some quirk in Obama's personality that can be corrected in time for the Armageddon showdown with the Republicans.

Take Paul Krugman, of the New York Times, for example.

People on the Left quote him a lot, which I find strange, since Krugman can talk about the political meltdown of 2008 for 45 minutes and never say the word "corporation" – as if corporations had nothing to do with the meltdown. But anyway, the liberal Krugman insists that Obama's problem is, he tried to transcend partisan divisions, not understanding that sometimes one has to fight.

**That's a recurring theme with Obama apologists, that Obama won't fight.**

**But Obama showed plenty of fight during the health care debate. He fought the left wing of his own party every step of the way, exiling single-payer supporters to the margins while he kissed Republican boodie and empowered Blue Dogs and DLCers.**

**He didn't just fight progressives, he stomped their butts into the dirt.**

Dr. Ron Daniels, of the Institute for the Black World, thinks the problem is Obama's "failure to effectively communicate" his "vision, programs and policies."

I think Obama has communicated quite effectively, that he wanted expanded theaters of war, trillions for Wall Street, and nothing special whatsoever for Black or brown America – those places that he says don't exist.

**It isn't that Obama has trouble conveying his vision, it's that his actual vision is unacceptable to progressives.**

**Of all people, Barack Obama doesn't need communications lessons.**

William Greider, probably the left-most of our three subjects, says Obama "needs to learn hardball" so he can fight the Republicans that are "trying to bury him." This, however, would require a 180 degree vision change on Obama's part, since his actual "vision" has always been to join with Republicans at some point much further to the right than the rest of us would ever want to go.

**The psychological problem is not Obama's.**

**It's the problem of much of the Left, who imagined an Obama that never existed.**

**That's why it was so easy for Obama and his corporate handlers to psyche-out the Left.**

**If you think Obama is salvageable, then you're the one with the psychological problem.**

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MILITARY?**

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**“Nearly Two-Thirds Of The Voting  
Age Population Did NOT Vote This  
Year At All”**

**“By Their Actions – Staying Away  
From The Polls – Workers Said, ‘A  
Pox On Both Your Houses”**

**“We Can't Change Our Situation In The  
Ballot Box Anyway”**

November 8 - 22, 2010 Spark Newspaper [Excerpt]

Workers had no clear way to express themselves in this election.

Some tried to figure out which was the lesser evil.

Some tried to vote AGAINST, against whoever was in office.

But the biggest part of the working class expressed itself by not voting.

Those who count these things say that nearly two-thirds of the voting age population did NOT vote this year at all.

Among workers, that NO-vote was even higher. By their actions – staying away from the polls – workers said, “A pox on both your houses.”

The elections are over, good riddance.

We can't change our situation in the ballot box anyway.

Try to remember a politician who seemed to “give” something to working people – and you will discover a politician who was boxed in by popular movements: workers' strikes and demonstrations, the black population's resistance, struggles carried out by women, movements against wars, the movements of poor farmers, those of sharecroppers and former slaves.

Today, we see just the hints of struggles. Not very big, yet. But more than yesterday.

We hear about workers here or there who refuse to give up any more concessions.

We run into parents protesting loud enough that a bureaucrat backs off on plans to close their kids' school.

We hear about bus riders who tear up a city council meeting because service has been cut off at night or on the weekend.

It's not much. BUT, it's in this direction we have to go.

## **Troops Invited:**

**Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send email to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**



## OCCUPATION PALESTINE

# **Zionist Military Occupation Court Refuses To Release Palestinian Non- Violent Activist After He Completes 12-Month Prison Sentence For “Unauthorized Protests” “Abu Rahma Serves As The Director Of The Bilin Village’s Popular Committee Against The Separation Fence”**

11.23.10 Ali Waked, Y-Net

The president of the Military Court of Appeals Colonel Aharon Mishnayot accepted a military prosecution request Monday and ordered the arrest of Abdullah Abu Rahma who serves as the director of the Bilin village’s popular committee against the separation fence, despite the fact that he completed his prison sentence for his involvement in organizing the anti-fence protests last Thursday, Palestinian sources reported.

Anti-fence activists and members of the committee claim that the decision goes against Supreme Court guidelines regarding jailing prisoners who completed their sentences, which stipulates it can only be done in special circumstances.

The military prosecution approached the court at the last minute to prevent Abu Rahma’s release Thursday and initiated a hearing on the case.

In October, Abu Rahma was sentenced to 12 months in prison for incitement and the organization of unauthorized protests.

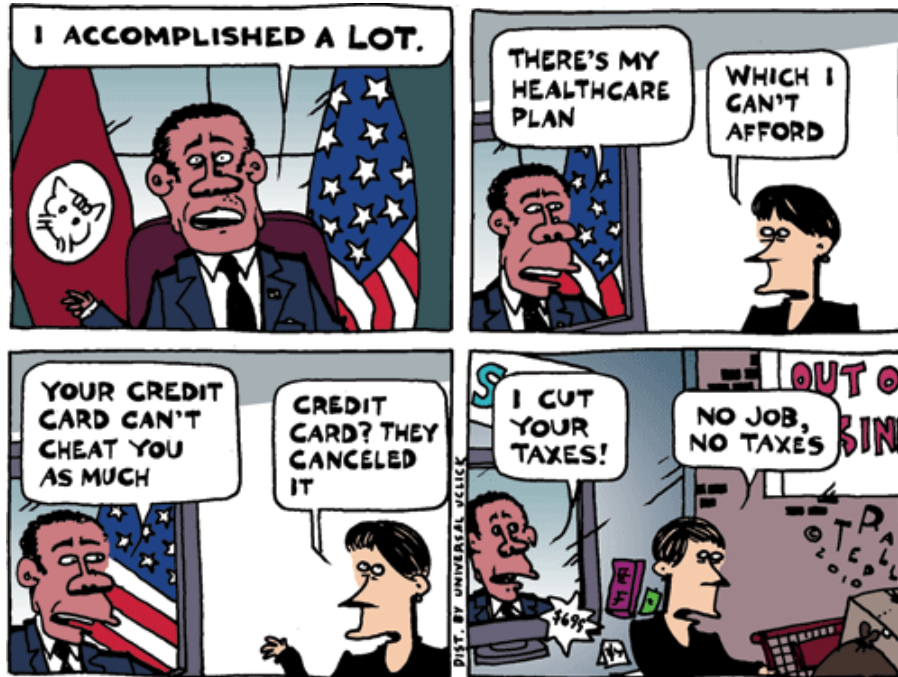
**After his imprisonment, the European Union issued a special statement where it defined Abu Rahma as a protector of human rights. EU representatives attended all the hearings in his case.**

EU foreign affairs chief Catherin Ashton expressed concern over the case and claimed that Abu Rahma’s arrest was meant to prevent him and other Palestinians from realizing their legitimate right to non-violent protest against the separation fence.

**[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation by foreign terrorists, go to: [www.rafahtoday.org](http://www.rafahtoday.org) The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves “Israeli.”]**

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## **DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK**



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**Airport Body Scanners Are  
Nothing But A Contemptible Fraud  
To Make Money For Politicians'  
Scum Buddies:  
Israeli Security Expert Told The  
World "I Don't Know Why Everybody  
Is Running To Buy These Expensive  
And Useless Machines"**

# Body Scanners “Not Deployed At Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion International Airport”

November 23, 2010 By Matthew Harwood, Truthout [Excerpts]

Resistance to full-body scanners - or in TSA parlance, advanced imaging technology (AIT) - has been gaining momentum for almost two years.

In March, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) called into question whether full-body scanners could have detected the underwear bomber.

“While TSA officials stated that the laboratory and operational testing of the AIT included placing explosive material in different locations on the body, it remains unclear whether the AIT would have been able to detect the weapon Mr. Abdulmutallab used in his attempted attack based on the preliminary TSA information we have received,” the GAO’s Steve Lord, director of homeland security and justice issues, told a House subcommittee.

**A month later, the former chief security officer of the Israel Airport Authority told Canadian lawmakers that full-body scanners were a waste of money and were not deployed at Tel Aviv’s Ben Gurion International Airport.**

**“I don’t know why everybody is running to buy these expensive and useless machines,” Rafi Sela said. “I can overcome the body scanners with enough explosives to bring down a Boeing 747.”**

**As the conservative Washington Examiner’s Timothy P. Carney wrote last week, full-body scanner manufacturers have some well-connected players lobbying on their behalf.**

L3 Communications, which makes one type of machine, active millimeter wave, hired lobbying firm Park Strategies to represent their interests.

There, former Sen. Al D’Amato (R-New York) and former Appropriations staffer Kraig Siracuse work to convince lawmakers that full-body scanners are necessary for the security of air travelers.

Four days after the botched Christmas Day account, the TSA announced L3 would receive a \$165 million contract for its full-body scanners.

**The other large, full-body scanner manufacturer, Rapiscan, which makes backscatter X-ray machines, had the biggest name lobbying for them: former Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff.**

Days after Abdulmutallab’s failed attack, Chertoff touted full-body scanners to The New York Times and even wrote an op-ed for The Washington Post, arguing that a bill to make full-body scanners only for use during secondary screening should be defeated and decried “privacy ideologues” for their objections to the screening technology

**Chertoff, however, never let either newspaper know that he was being paid by Rapiscan to endorse their products.**

**According to Carney, Rapiscan also hired Susan Carr, a former senior legislative aide to Rep. David Price (D-North Carolina), chairman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee, another proponent of full-body scanners.**

**Chertoff and Carr's efforts worked. The TSA handed Rapiscan a \$173 million contract.**

Critics continually stress that the TSA is always protecting against the last attempted attack.

Richard Reid's shoe bomb results in the TSA screening travelers' shoes for explosives.

The 2006 cross-Atlantic aircraft plot to bring down at least ten airliners with liquid explosives means air travelers are banned from bringing liquids in containers of three ounces or more through security. Underwear bomber Abdulmutallab means air travelers must relinquish their final vestige of dignity and choose between allowing a government employee to either sneak a peak at what their packing or actually feel the real thing.

**But this behavior pattern, begs the question: What will the TSA do when a terrorist somehow ingests or inserts a bomb into his body?**

This isn't a Hollywood brainstorming session taking a vulgar, outlandish turn.

In August 2009, a comrade of Abdulmutallab's did just that. Twenty-three-year-old AQAP operative Abdullah Hassan Tali al-Asiri became the ultimate Trojan Horse.

In an effort to get close to the head of Saudi counterterrorism, Interior Minister Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, the young jihadist pretended he had turned away from violent extremism.

**Little did the prince or his security detail know, al-Asiri had inserted a bomb into his rectum.**

When he got an audience with the prince, the device detonated, blasting al-Asiri to bits and only grazing Nayef.

**If AQAP tries this attack vector in the United States, it's disconcerting to dream up how the TSA will respond to this vulnerability.**

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## **CLASS WAR REPORTS**

### **Capitalism At Work:**

# Corporate Profits Were The Highest On Record Last Quarter: “The Economy Is Not Growing Fast Enough To Reduce Significantly The Unemployment Rate”

November 23, 2010 By CATHERINE RAMPELL, The New York Times [Excerpts]

The nation’s workers may be struggling, but American companies just had their best quarter ever.

American businesses earned profits at an annual rate of \$1.66 trillion in the third quarter, according to a Commerce Department report released Tuesday. That is the highest figure recorded since the government began keeping track over 60 years ago, at least in nominal or non-inflation-adjusted terms.

Corporate profits have been going gangbusters for a while. Since their cyclical low in the fourth quarter of 2008, profits have grown for seven consecutive quarters, at some of the fastest rates in history.

“The economy is not growing fast enough to reduce significantly the unemployment rate or to prevent a slide into deflation,” Paul Dales, a United States economist for Capital Economics, wrote in a note to clients. “

This is unlikely to change in 2011 or 2012.”

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