

Military Resistance 8L4



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

Americans Killed In Afghanistan In November Equals Last 7 Years Of Novembers

HEADLINES:

Slain Maine Soldier Had Misgivings About Arming Afghan Police

Maryland Marine With Ties to Mississippi Was Newlywed

Arkansas Soldier Never Got to Hold Youngest Child

Georgia Soldier's Kin in Texas Missed Last Chance to Talk to Him

Tell City Soldier Leaves Behind Wife, Four Children

Fallen Virginia Soldier Described as 'All-Around Good Guy'

Sudbury Mourns Army Ranger Killed in Afghanistan

Texas Soldier Who Specialized in Disarming IEDs Killed in Afghanistan

San Jose Marine Dies on First Combat Tour

[Week of Nov. 28 – Dec. 4. Posted at Anti-War.Com]

December 09, 2010 AllGov.com

This past November was the worst of any November for U.S. deaths since the war in Afghanistan began in 2001.

In fact, the number of American soldiers killed in November 2010 equaled the U.S. death toll of all the Novembers from 2003 through 2009 (53). Before last month, the worst November was 2009's, when 18 were killed. Prior to that, the average November death toll from 2001-2008 was five.

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

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Numaniya

Dec 8 (Reuters)

NUMANIYA - A sniper shot dead a U.S. soldier on the roof of a municipal council building in Numaniya, 120 km (72 miles) south of Baghdad, an Iraqi security source said. The U.S. military said a soldier had been killed but did not have further details.

Mortar Attack Hits Green Zone

Dec 7 (Reuters)

BAGHDAD - Two mortar rounds landed in Baghdad's fortified Green Zone government and diplomatic enclave, a source in the Interior Ministry said.

More Resistance Action

Dec 6 (Reuters) & Dec 7 (Reuters) & Dec 8 (Reuters) & By MAZIN YAHYA Associated Press & Dec 9 (Reuters) & 12.10.10 AP

BAQUBA - A roadside bomb explosion near his house wounded a member of a government-backed militia and killed two of his sons in Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, an interior ministry source said. Three other people were hurt in the blast.

ABU GHRAIB - Armed men opened fire on a police checkpoint, killing one policeman, in Abu Ghraib, on the western outskirts of Baghdad, police said.

ABU GHRAIB - A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol killed two soldiers when it went off on the outskirts of Abu Ghraib, police said.

BAGHDAD - A roadside bomb exploded near a car carrying three agents of the interior ministry's intelligence department, wounding all three, in central Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

BAGHDAD - A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol went off and wounded three policemen in the Saidiya district of southern Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents shot dead Sameer Esmail, a manager with the Baghdad municipal government, and wounded his driver in the Amiriya district of western Baghdad, an interior ministry source said.

TARMIYA - Insurgents opened fire on the home of a lieutenant colonel in the Iraqi interior ministry on Tuesday, killing his daughter and wounding two other family members, in Tarmiya, 25 km (15 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

BAGHDAD - A roadside bomb went off late on Tuesday near a police patrol in Bayaa district of southwestern Baghdad, wounding two policemen, police said.

RAMADI - A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol in southwestern Ramadi, 100 km (60 miles) west of Baghdad, wounded two policemen, including an officer, police said.

ABU GHRAIB - Insurgents opened fire on an Iraqi army security checkpoint, killing two soldiers and wounding two others, in Abu Ghraib on Baghdad's western outskirts, police said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents killed an interior ministry driver when they opened fire on his car with silenced guns in Baghdad's northern district of Kadhimiya, interior ministry and police sources said.

TAJI - Insurgents killed a member of a government-backed militia and wounded another when they attacked a security checkpoint in Taji, 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, a source in the interior ministry said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents using silenced weapons shot dead Omar Jassim Mohammed, head of the auditing department in the Supreme Judiciary Council, in his car in Baghdad's southwestern Amil district on Wednesday, a source in the interior ministry said.

BAGHDAD - Insurgents using silenced weapons shot dead an off-duty police captain on Wednesday in Baghdad's western district of Amiriya, a source in the interior ministry said.

A drive-by attack on a security checkpoint in Tikrit killed two guards, officials said. Armed men in a speeding car opened fire on a checkpoint.

In Baghdad a police captain and the head accountant for the Iraqi Supreme Court were each killed by attackers with silenced pistols in western Baghdad, police and hospital officials said.

In a northern neighborhood, Insurgents targeted a counter-terrorism policeman but failed to kill him despite shooting him several times, police and hospital officials said.

None of the attackers were caught

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Massachusetts Sgt. Killed In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Sgt. James A. Ayube, a medic from Salem, Mass., was killed in action in Afghanistan Dec. 8, 2010. Ayube, a 2003 graduate of Salem High School, was assigned to Company H, 2nd Stryker, Cavalry Regiment, Rose Barracks in Vilseck, Germany. (AP Photo/Ayube Family, File)

New Hampshire Marine Killed In Afghanistan



Lance corporal Michael Geary of Derry, N.H., was killed Dec. 8, 2010 in Afghanistan.
(AP Photo/Courtesy of the Family)

Two Foreign Occupation “Servicemembers” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced

December 8 Reuters

Two foreign servicemembers died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Monday:

Nationality Not Announced

December 6 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Another Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Monday: Nationality Not Announced

December 6 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Thursday: Nationality Not Announced

December 9 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Friday: Nationality Not Announced

December 9 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an improvised explosive device attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Soldier From 3 PARA Killed In Nad 'Ali

6 Dec 10 Ministry of Defence

It is with deep regret that the Ministry of Defence must announce that a soldier from 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment (3 PARA) was killed in Afghanistan on Sunday 5 December 2010.

The soldier died as a result of his wounds after being shot whilst patrolling in the Nad 'Ali district of Helmand province. At the time of his death he was taking part in an operation to find and disrupt insurgent elements.

Two U.S. Troops Wounded Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan

12/10/2010 Allison White, The Times-Standard

Virginia Bass' son, Jason Wattle, 27, was seriously wounded last week while in the line of duty with the U.S. Marines in Afghanistan.

Wattle, a Eureka man stationed out of Camp Pendleton in Southern California, was wearing protective gear, but was shot in the shoulder with automatic gunfire on the morning of Dec. 3, said Humboldt County Supervisor-elect Bass. Wattle and another man from his unit, who was also wounded, were airlifted out of the area to a nearby hospital.

Wattle's injury was initially listed as serious, but his condition improved after surgery, Bass said. The bullet apparently went straight through and did not have to be extracted. After Wattle came out of surgery, he received some rehabilitative therapy, and he should soon be headed back to his unit, Bass said.

"He was very fortunate it went through without doing anything to his bones or arteries," she said.

Jason Wattle's father, Tom Wattle, said he also got a call from his injured son on Friday morning.

"This deployment to that region has been nerve-racking for me," Tom Wattle said. "It causes a lot of sleepless nights. But I still support what he does."

Bass heard from her son after his surgery, and then later received a call from the Marines. Hearing from Jason Wattle first made the shock of his injury easier to handle, she said.

"I was less frightened because I got to hear his voice," she said.

However, her son may have downplayed his injury for her benefit. When the Marines' representative called Bass, she discovered the injury was a bit more serious than her son had let on.

She also realized that Dec. 3 was already a day of note for Wattle, which she recalled after learning of his injury -- on Dec. 3, 1984, he got his first tooth.

Jason Wattle has been serving in the Marines for about eight years, something he had been working toward since he was 14, his parents said. He joined straight out of high school and recently re-enlisted, Tom Wattle said. The Marine and his wife are also expecting their first child in January.

Bass said she appreciates all of the well-wishes and support her family has received from the community. Tom Wattle said he has also received offers of emotional support from friends, family and co-workers.

"I'm very proud of what he's doing, and I wish all of those serving a safe holiday," Tom Wattle said.

Afghan Occupation Fuel Truck Toasted Again, As Usual



Pakistani fire fighters trying to extinguish fire after militants set fuel tanker on fire, en-route to foreign troops in neighboring Afghanistan at an outskirts of Peshawar, Pakistan Dec. 6, 2010. (AP Photo/Mohammad Sajjad)

U.S. Air Force Helps The Resistance: Kills And Wounds Afghan Collaborator Troops & British Soldier

09 December 2010 REUTERS & NEWKERALA.COM

KABUL: Afghanistan's Defence Ministry yesterday condemned an air strike by foreign [translation: U.S.] forces which it said killed two Afghan soldiers and wounded five more south of Kabul.

The incident took place on Tuesday afternoon in the village of Bangram in the Charkh district of Logar province, the ministry said in a statement.

On Sunday, 23-year-old British Private John Howard was killed after an incident in southern Afghanistan's Helmand Province. Initial reports indicate that the service member died when a U.S. aircraft was targeting an insurgent position in the area.

**[Not From The Onion]
Canadian Troops Win Afghan
Hearts And Minds By Destroying
Farm Land And Telling Farmer
Corrupt, Thieving Afghan
Government Will Pay For
Damages:**

**“Landry Said He Encouraged Them
To Have Faith In The System”**

**“In Addition To Losing His Land,
Rahman Was Temporarily Evicted From**

His Compound By Troops Who Needed It As A Combat Outpost”

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

In addition to losing his land, Rahman was temporarily evicted from his compound by troops who needed it as a combat outpost.

As compensation, he was paid 10,000 Afghanis -- roughly \$234 in Canadian currency. It did little to smooth things over.

"How about I give you 10,000 Afghanis," Rahman told the soldiers, "and you find someplace else?"

Dec. 7, 2010 The Canadian Press [Excerpts]

ZANGABAD, Afghanistan — Canadian tanks and engineering vehicles endured a barrage of a different sort from local Afghan villagers Tuesday as they pushed to the edge of a long-time Taliban redoubt southwest of Kandahar city.

Farmers in this otherwise bucolic hamlet, long known for its support of the insurgency, vented their frustrations at the convoy of vehicles as it cut a swath across their land, making way for the area's first major roadway.

"I was never told about this," Abdul Rahman, a local land owner whose grape field is being cut in half by the new gravel road, said through a translator.

The road is to be eight metres wide, but the disruption is far wider: to discourage the Taliban from planting bombs, engineers have cleared 25 metres of land on either side of the project.

Rahman threw up his hands as mine-sweeping tanks churned up the field in front of him. "What am I going to do with that?" he railed. "They might as well take the whole field."

It was up to the district governor to consult with residents, but Rahman and several other landowners who turned up at a meeting with coalition officers said they weren't told the exact route.

Rahman said he tried in vain to convince engineers not to bisect his land, and even offered to allow his personal mosque to be demolished if it meant a different route.

The officer commanding the route clearing was mortified at the request and the optics it would have presented for the locals, to say nothing of the propaganda bonanza for the Taliban.

"It's weird, but quite frankly I don't want to have Canadian soldiers being seen levelling a mosque when there's a clear option to go somewhere else," said Maj. Eric Landry, the commander of the tank squadron.

NATO will compensate the farmers for lost crops, but it will be up to the Afghan government to deliver expropriation payments for land and demolished buildings - a dicey prospect in a country where corruption is on an institutional scale.

"This is why we have the lawyers," Landry said with a half-hearted laugh.

Afghan government lawyers, along with mentors, are supposed to follow up with the village soon. But that's cold comfort to locals.

"They don't trust the process. They say at the end of the day they won't get their money."

But Landry said he encouraged them to have faith in the system. [And the tooth fairy. Let's not forget the tooth fairy. T]

The sympathies of many of the local tribes, especially the powerful Noorzai, have rested with the Taliban from the beginning.

Villagers are reluctant to show support for the Karzai government, a fact made evident by the large crowd that gathered just beyond the security line set up by the troops. They wouldn't attend the meeting with other landowners, but instead sat and watched.

One man, identified as not being local, was questioned by soldiers and released.

How much the road helps sway support for the government remains to be seen.

In addition to losing his land, Rahman was temporarily evicted from his compound by troops who needed it as a combat outpost.

As compensation, he was paid 10,000 Afghanis -- roughly \$234 in Canadian currency. It did little to smooth things over.

"How about I give you 10,000 Afghanis," Rahman told the soldiers, "and you find someplace else?"

Landry just shrugged.

"It's hard to build a relationship in two weeks and trust in two weeks, but we're trying to give them some tangible proof that we can do some good." **[Stupid rolls on.]**

<p>IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATION</p>

Get The Message?



Pakistanis rally against U.S. drone attacks killing Pakistani civilians, in Islamabad, Pakistan, Dec. 10, 2010. (AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)

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/)

MILITARY NEWS

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



Oct. 10, 2010: A U.S. Air Force medivac helicopter with the body of a U.S. soldier who was killed in a roadside bomb attack in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. The attack killed two American soldiers and wounded three others. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)

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 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**

**Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number,
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you-
Ye are many — they are few
-- Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1819, on the occasion of a mass murder of British workers by the Imperial government at Peterloo.**

WikiLeaks



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: December 08, 2010
Subject: WikiLeaks

WikiLeaks

**Around the world, everyone is fed up
with America's rampage of censorship.
Rage against the U.S. War Machine is
building by the day.**

**The American government is being
exposed for its worldwide rape.**

**The American Dream is a cover-up
for world dominance.**

The truth is stark naked.

**The American Empire indeed has
no clothes.**

**The U.S. brand of democracy is freezing.
It's time.**

**Children dying from American weapons
is running out of censorship.**

**That is why WikiLeaks was born,
so children could finally thrive.**

**Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71**

December 8, 2010

When the truth is replaced by silence,
the silence is a lie.

Yevgeny Yevtushenko
Soviet dissident

Photograph by Mike Hastie
Medevac helicopter in my
military unit in An Khe, Vietnam
1970. I did not serve in Vietnam
for the cause of freedom, I served
Big Business in America for the
cause of profit.

Photo 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

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

**“There Is Nothing More Wrong Than
A Government Lying To Its People**

**About Those Wars, Then Asking
These Same Citizens To Put Their
Lives And Their Taxes On The Line
For Those Lies”
[By Julian Assange]**



December 07, 2010 By Julian Assange, the editor-in-chief of WikiLeaks; News Limited

IN 1958 a young Rupert Murdoch, then owner and editor of Adelaide's The News, wrote: "In the race between secrecy and truth, it seems inevitable that truth will always win."

His observation perhaps reflected his father Keith Murdoch's expose that Australian troops were being needlessly sacrificed by incompetent British commanders on the shores of Gallipoli. The British tried to shut him up but Keith Murdoch would not be silenced and his efforts led to the termination of the disastrous Gallipoli campaign.

Nearly a century later, WikiLeaks is also fearlessly publishing facts that need to be made public.

I grew up in a Queensland country town where people spoke their minds bluntly. They distrusted big government as something that could be corrupted if not watched carefully. The dark days of corruption in the Queensland government before the Fitzgerald inquiry

are testimony to what happens when the politicians gag the media from reporting the truth.

These things have stayed with me. WikiLeaks was created around these core values. The idea, conceived in Australia, was to use internet technologies in new ways to report the truth.

WikiLeaks coined a new type of journalism: scientific journalism. We work with other media outlets to bring people the news, but also to prove it is true. Scientific journalism allows you to read a news story, then to click online to see the original document it is based on. That way you can judge for yourself: Is the story true? Did the journalist report it accurately?

Democratic societies need a strong media and WikiLeaks is part of that media. The media helps keep government honest. WikiLeaks has revealed some hard truths about the Iraq and Afghan wars, and broken stories about corporate corruption.

People have said I am anti-war: for the record, I am not. Sometimes nations need to go to war, and there are just wars. But there is nothing more wrong than a government lying to its people about those wars, then asking these same citizens to put their lives and their taxes on the line for those lies. If a war is justified, then tell the truth and the people will decide whether to support it.

If you have read any of the Afghan or Iraq war logs, any of the US embassy cables or any of the stories about the things WikiLeaks has reported, consider how important it is for all media to be able to report these things freely.

WikiLeaks is not the only publisher of the US embassy cables. Other media outlets, including Britain's The Guardian, The New York Times, El Pais in Spain and Der Spiegel in Germany have published the same redacted cables.

Yet it is WikiLeaks, as the co-ordinator of these other groups, that has copped the most vicious attacks and accusations from the US government and its acolytes. I have been accused of treason, even though I am an Australian, not a US, citizen.

There have been dozens of serious calls in the US for me to be "taken out" by US special forces. Sarah Palin says I should be "hunted down like Osama bin Laden", a Republican bill sits before the US Senate seeking to have me declared a "transnational threat" and disposed of accordingly. An adviser to the Canadian Prime Minister's office has called on national television for me to be assassinated.

An American blogger has called for my 20-year-old son, here in Australia, to be kidnapped and harmed for no other reason than to get at me.

And Australians should observe with no pride the disgraceful pandering to these sentiments by Prime Minister Gillard and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton have not had a word of criticism for the other media organisations. That is because The Guardian, The New York Times and Der Spiegel are old and large, while WikiLeaks is as yet young and small.

We are the underdogs. The Gillard government is trying to shoot the messenger because it doesn't want the truth revealed, including information about its own diplomatic and political dealings.

Has there been any response from the Australian government to the numerous public threats of violence against me and other WikiLeaks personnel?

One might have thought an Australian prime minister would be defending her citizens against such things, but there have only been wholly unsubstantiated claims of illegality. The Prime Minister and especially the Attorney-General are meant to carry out their duties with dignity and above the fray.

Rest assured, these two mean to save their own skins. They will not.

Every time WikiLeaks publishes the truth about abuses committed by US agencies, Australian politicians chant a provably false chorus with the State Department: "You'll risk lives! National security! You'll endanger troops!" Then they say there is nothing of importance in what WikiLeaks publishes. It can't be both. Which is it?

It is neither. WikiLeaks has a four-year publishing history.

During that time we have changed whole governments, but not a single person, as far as anyone is aware, has been harmed.

But the US , with Australian government connivance, has killed thousands in the past few months alone.

US Secretary of Defence Robert Gates admitted in a letter to the US congress that no sensitive intelligence sources or methods had been compromised by the Afghan war logs disclosure. The Pentagon stated there was no evidence the WikiLeaks reports had led to anyone being harmed in Afghanistan . NATO in Kabul told CNN it couldn't find a single person who needed protecting. The Australian Department of Defence said the same. No Australian troops or sources have been hurt by anything we have published.

But our publications have been far from unimportant. The US diplomatic cables reveal some startling facts:

The US asked its diplomats to steal personal human material and information from UN officials and human rights groups, including DNA, fingerprints, iris scans, credit card numbers, internet passwords and ID photos, in violation of international treaties. Presumably Australian UN diplomats may be targeted, too.

King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia asked the US Officials in Jordan and Bahrain want Iran's nuclear program stopped by any means available.

Britain's Iraq inquiry was fixed to protect "US interests".

Sweden is a covert member of NATO and US intelligence sharing is kept from parliament.

The US is playing hardball to get other countries to take freed detainees from Guantanamo Bay . Barack Obama agreed to meet the Slovenian President only if Slovenia took a prisoner. Our Pacific neighbour Kiribati was offered millions of dollars to accept detainees.

In its landmark ruling in the Pentagon Papers case, the US Supreme Court said “only a free and unrestrained press can effectively expose deception in government”. The swirling storm around WikiLeaks today reinforces the need to defend the right of all media to reveal the truth.



www.wikileaks.ch

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Wealthiest .0000001% Hail Tax Deal: Billionaires Praise Obama Move

December 8, 2010 The Borowitz Report

GENEVA - President Obama's deal to extend the Bush tax cuts for the rich drew rave reviews today from the wealthiest .0000001% of Americans, who pronounced the deal "a total home run."

"When we first heard about the deal, we were like, this is too good to be true," said multibillionaire Thurston Howell IV, a spokesman for the richest .0000001%. "But when our butlers read the plan aloud to us during the cocktail hour, we were incredibly stoked."

The 29 plutocrats who make up the nation's wealthiest .0000001% were at their annual meeting at Mr. Howell's villa in Geneva, Switzerland when news of the President's deal was first released.

"Bill Gates and Warren Buffett were the first to hear about it, and then the news just kind of trickled down, if I may use a favorite phrase of ours," Mr. Howell said.

"The President deserves credit for recognizing what the wealthiest .0000001% have known for years," he added. "Our cost of living has soared astronomically, especially when you consider how expensive it's gotten to control the outcome of elections."

In response to critics who have said that Mr. Obama's decision to extend the tax cuts represents a change in his position, Mr. Howell said, "If I may coin a phrase, that's change I can believe in."

Elsewhere, to commemorate Pearl Harbor, Republicans attacked someone from Hawaii and won.

In Latest Compromise With GOP, Obama Agrees He Is A Muslim

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

December 7, 2010 The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON – In his latest effort to find common ground with Republicans in Congress, President Barack Obama said today that he was willing to agree that he is a Muslim.

Differences over his religious orientation have been a sore point between the President and his Republican foes for the past two years, but in agreeing that he is a Muslim Mr. Obama is sending a clear signal that he is trying to find consensus.

“The American people do not want to see us fighting in Washington,” Mr. Obama told reporters at the White House. “They want to see us working together to improve their lives, and Allah willing, we will.”

But Mr. Obama’s willingness to back down on his claim of being a Christian does not seem to have satisfied his Republican opposition, as GOP leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) today insisted that the President must also agree that he was born in Kenya.

While Mr. Obama did not immediately agree to Rep. Bohener’s demand, he hinted that yet another compromise might be in the offing: “My place of birth has been, and will always be, negotiable.”

White House sources indicated today that the President might be willing to meet the GOP halfway on his birthplace and say that he was born in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

Obama Agrees To Extend Republicans’ Custody Of His Balls

December 9, 2010 The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON – In an effort to end what he called “the bickering and rancor in Washington,” President Barack Obama agreed today to extend Republicans’ custody of his balls for an additional two years.

“I know my critics are going to make a big deal out of this,” the President told reporters at the White House. “But all this does is formalize an arrangement that was already in place.”

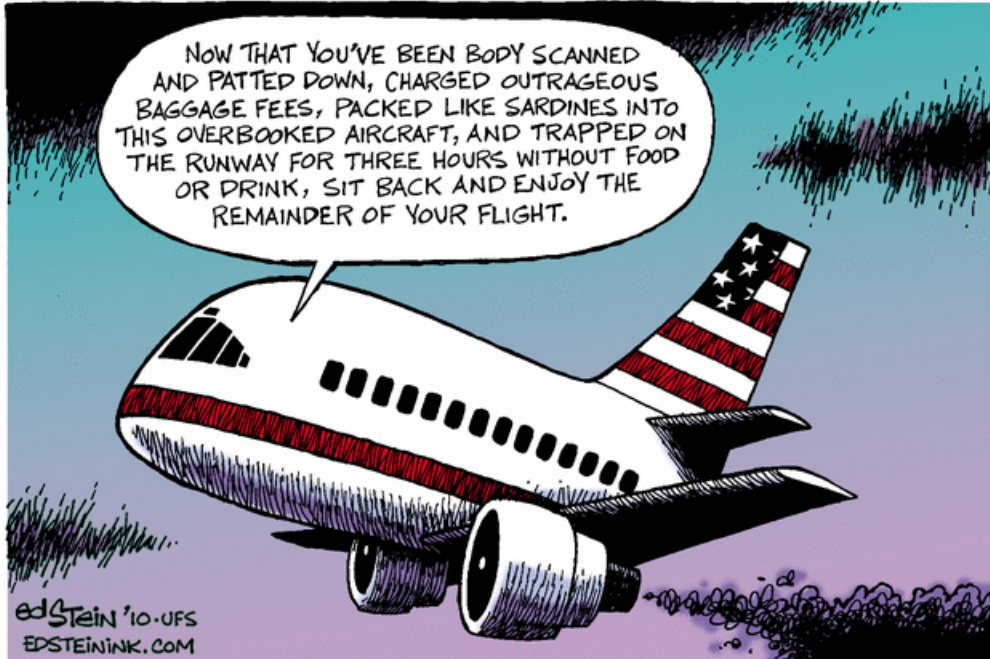
Mr. Obama said that extending Republican custody of his balls through 2012 “was like the Holy Grail for them, but I’m keeping my eyes on the North Star,” adding, “I have no idea what any of that means.”

Moments after the two-year transfer of Mr. Obama’s family jewels was announced, Vice President Joe Biden defended the President against critics from his own party: “I know he’s going to catch a lot of heat for this, but what he did took cojones.”

Emerging from the Oval Office after the deal was struck, Republican leader John Boehner (R-Ohio) pronounced himself pleased with the outcome: “The President put what he had on the table, and we came away with what we wanted.”

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) said that the agreement on Mr. Obama’s nuts would make upcoming budget negotiations go more smoothly: “This greatly reduces the size of the President’s package.”

CLASS WAR REPORTS



**30,000 Anti-Fees Demonstrators
Converge On Central London
“Running Battles In The
Westminster Area, After MPs
Voted To Raise Tuition Fees To Up
To £9,000”**

**“As Violence Raged, Demonstration
Leaders Called Out On A Loud-Hailer
That They Were Also There For The
"Pensioners, People On Welfare And**

On All Those Who Will Lose Out As A Result Of Government Cuts"

"Their Late Defiant Cry At The End Of A Day Of Carnage Was, 'We'll Be Back'"



Prince Charles, heir to the throne and wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, react as their chauffeur driven Rolls Royce limousine is attacked with paint bombs by student protesters in London. Some called out "Off with their heads." [Picture: AP]

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

Part of what has stoked anger over the increases is that Britain's universities traditionally charged no tuition fees, with tuition costs met out of taxpayer grants to colleges or endowment funds.

The street clashes on Thursday raised concerns that the protests could be the template for even wider disturbances in the future, as the spending cuts and expected job losses begin to bite.

10 December 2010 The Scotsman & The Herald & By JOHN F. BURNS, The New York Times [Excerpts]

PRINCE Charles and his wife Camilla came under attack and several government buildings were damaged during violent clashes between protesters and police after MPs voted narrowly to allow English universities to increase tuition fees.

The 62-year-old heir to the British throne and his 63-year-old wife, the Duchess of Cornwall, were said by palace officials to have been unharmed in the attack, which occurred when a group of about 50 protesters, some in full-face balaclavas and shouting “Tory scum!” and “It’s your government!” broke through a cordon of police officers on motorcycles while approaching London’s theater district in slow-speed traffic.

A photograph of the couple, in formal evening dress, showed them registering shock as protesters beat on the side of their armored, chauffeur-driven Rolls-Royce with sticks and bottles, smashing a side window, denting a rear panel and splashing the car with white paint.

A Jaguar tailing the car and carrying a palace security detail was so battered that the police ended up using its doors as shields.

The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall were unharmed in the incident, which happened as they made their way to the Palladium Theatre for the Royal Variety Performance.

But police and protesters were taken to hospital following a series of running battles in the Westminster area, after MPs voted to raise tuition fees to up to £9,000.

As many as 30,000 anti-fees demonstrators had converged on central London to protest against the controversial policy.

The confrontations began after students marched through central London and converged on the square, waving banners and chanting: “Education is not for sale.”

At 1:30pm the crowd started walking quickly away from Trafalgar Square, along the Mall, towards Buckingham Palace.

Other violence across the city center continued into the night, with demonstrators trying to smash their way into the Treasury building at the heart of the Whitehall government district with makeshift rams made from steel crowd barriers, and by smashing windows, using hammers, spades and stones, shouting “We want our money back!”

After being denied entry, they moved to the Supreme Court, where they smashed windows.

Police said the Christmas tree in the square was set alight, and one demonstrator was seen swinging from a Union flag attached to the Cenotaph.

Hundreds of armed police were waiting for the protesters at Parliament, which was barricaded by a double row of steel barriers.

BBC reporters at the scene wore helmets as the rioters threw shattered blocks of steel-reinforced concrete.

The march was expected to carry on to Victoria Embankment, but a large number of protesters remained in Parliament Square.

A number of benches were set ablaze as demonstrators fought running battles with police at the Victoria Street entrance to the square.

Missiles were hurled at officers and statues were vandalised, including that of Sir Winston Churchill.

After MPs passed the vote raising fees, protesters set alight a discarded maintenance shed.

Other protesters later rampaged along Oxford Street, targeting a number of stores in the shopping thoroughfare.

Within minutes, the barriers erected to stop protesters occupying the centre of Parliament Square had been ripped up and were used as weapons by the rioters against the police.

As darkness fell, many police in riot gear were seen taking off their luminous yellow tops and some of the lights appeared to be dimmed as baton-wielding officers clashed with protesters.

As violence raged, demonstration leaders called out on a loud-hailer that they were also there for the "pensioners, people on welfare and on all those who will lose out as a result of government cuts".

Their late defiant cry at the end of a day of carnage was, "We'll be back".

Scotland Yard said at mid-evening that at least 12 police officers were injured, six of them seriously, including one who was taken unconscious to the hospital after falling or being pulled off his horse.

At that point, one large fire was still burning in front of the Palace of Westminster, seat of the House of Commons.

At the height of the unrest, rioters threw snooker balls, lighted flares and fireworks at the police, and tried to topple statues in Westminster Square, across from the Commons. At least 43 were arrested.

Recent weeks have seen other occasions when street protests have spilled over into violence, but nothing on the scale of Thursday's unrest, which was punctuated by the unexpected and, many said, ill-advised appearance of Prince Charles and Camilla in the midst of the uproar.

"I thought it was mad of them to head up Regent Street, because there were thousands of protesters at the top of the street, and the car was heading straight into them," the witness told the BBC.

He said Prince Charles and the duchess remained in their vehicle throughout and ultimately relaxed after a moment when the duchess, looking terrified, slid into the footwell beside the door.

Student protests have been a vehicle for wider popular resistance to the 20 percent across-the-board cuts in government spending announced by the Cameron government in October, with tens of thousands of young people angered by a doubling, or potentially even a tripling, of government-regulated tuition fees, to a maximum of about \$14,200 a year.

Under the new fees, which are to take effect in 2012, many students are expected to accumulate loans of as much as £40,000, about \$63,000, during a three-year degree course.

Part of what has stoked anger over the increases is that Britain's universities traditionally charged no tuition fees, with tuition costs met out of taxpayer grants to colleges or endowment funds.

The street clashes on Thursday raised concerns that the protests could be the template for even wider disturbances in the future, as the spending cuts and expected job losses begin to bite.

The Liberals, with 57 parliamentary seats to the Conservatives' 308, had promised during the May election not to support a tuition fee increase, but made a U-turn once in government, saying the size of the deficit inherited from Labour made the increases necessary.



The Herald, Scotland



Andrew Testa for The New York Times



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