

Military Resistance 9A19

“‘We Are With The People,’ Said Ahmed, A Skinny 20-Year-Old Soldier Who Would Not Give His Last Name”

“Soldiers Flashed Peace Signs And Smiled Approvingly As Demonstrators Chanted ‘Down With Mubarak!’”

“When Protesters Attempted To Mount One Of The Tanks, The Troops Invited More Aboard, Until An Entire Convoy Was Covered, Leading The Crowd To Cheer Mightily”

**“In An Extraordinary Show Of
Solidarity ... Atop Tanks, Soldiers
And Protesters Embraced”
“In Tahrir Square Protesters And
Soldiers Worked Together To Beat Back
Two Interior Ministry Vehicles That
Attempted To Enter The Site”**



In Cairo, protesters with soldiers at Tahir Square, where tens of thousands of people had gathered. Getty Images

The protesters filed past dozens of desert-beige tanks manned by troops in matching combat fatigues who at first appeared impassive but gradually broke into grins as the square rapidly filled.

A tank commander then scaled his vehicle and announced to the crowd that the Interior Ministry, which operates the nation's police force, had deployed thousands of armed men who were bent on sowing chaos in Egypt.

The army, he said, “would stand with the people.”

January 30, 2011 By Griff Witte, Washington Post Staff Writer [Excerpts]

CAIRO - Under the protective gaze of Egyptian soldiers, thousands of demonstrators converged on this capital city's central plaza Sunday and vowed to occupy the site until President Hosni Mubarak steps down.

In Tahrir Square, the central plaza that has been the focus of anti-Mubarak sentiment, protesters and soldiers worked together to beat back two Interior Ministry vehicles that attempted to enter the site.

A tank commander then scaled his vehicle and announced to the crowd that the Interior Ministry, which operates the nation's police force, had deployed thousands of armed men who were bent on sowing chaos in Egypt.

The army, he said, "would stand with the people."

The commander, dressed in battle fatigues, was cheered by the crowd and kissed on the cheek by demonstrators who chanted, "the army and the people are one."

On Saturday, protesters and soldiers worked together to hold off police.

Unlike the police, the army has allowed demonstrations to go forward and has not enforced what had been a strict government curfew.

With uniformed police virtually absent from Cairo's streets, the soldiers and residents cooperated to provide security.

Residents said they were bracing for more Sunday night, and the army encouraged all Egyptians to arm themselves in self-defense.

Throughout the day Sunday, rumors ran rampant. At one point just before dusk in Tahrir Square, a report circulated within the crowd that Mubarak had resigned the presidency and fled the country.

Almost as one, thousands of people began to jump up and down in triumph, shouting, "He's gone!"

Atop tanks, soldiers and protesters embraced.

But just as quickly as the news had spread, a second rumor - this one apparently true - emerged: Mubarak was still the president. The crowd quieted.

Jubilant pro-democracy demonstrators and gun-toting soldiers rode together atop tanks into this capital city's main square Saturday in an extraordinary show of solidarity, even as Mubarak took steps to engineer a possible transfer of power to one of his closest confidants.

After four days of nationwide battles between protesters and police, the tens of thousands of Egyptians who have taken to the streets to demand an end to Mubarak's 29-year rule received an unexpected endorsement when the military declined to block their latest rally.

Instead, soldiers flashed peace signs and smiled approvingly as demonstrators chanted "Down with Mubarak!"

When protesters attempted to mount one of the tanks, the troops invited more aboard, until an entire convoy was covered, leading the crowd to cheer mightily.

It remains to be seen whether the grand gestures reflected a military endorsement of the protesters' demand or were simply an attempt by commanders to defuse tensions and buy time for the autocratic Mubarak to consolidate control and put in a plan of succession.

Mubarak, 82, owes much of his authority to the military, and on Saturday he made critical appointments that could signal his intention to keep power within the security establishment.

Most critically, Mubarak for the first time named a vice president - an apparent step toward setting up a successor other than his son Gamal, whom he had appeared to be grooming for the post.

But Mubarak's pick, intelligence chief Suleiman, is widely despised among demonstrators, who have demanded the chance to choose their own president in national elections.

Protesters this week have been noticeably secular, saying they do not want Islamic law imposed after years of living under Mubarak's emergency rule, and the Muslim Brotherhood has played only a marginal role in the demonstrations.

"The resources of this country all go to a few businessmen with connections to the government, not to the people," Farouk Hanafy, a 33-year-old engineer, said as he marched down the Corniche, this city's grand promenade beside the Nile. "We want justice."

Hanafy cradled in his arms his 18-month-old daughter.

He said he brought her to the demonstrations because "for as long as I can remember, I have known only one president. I want her to see someone besides Mubarak. I want her to see that I change this society."

With soldiers under apparent orders to allow the protests to proceed, Saturday's demonstrations were far more orderly than on any previous day.

The protesters filed past dozens of desert-beige tanks manned by troops in matching combat fatigues who at first appeared impassive but gradually broke into grins as the square rapidly filled.

When it became clear that the military had no intention of enforcing a previously announced 4 p.m. curfew, the protesters and the soldiers relaxed as both sides enjoyed a brief moment of harmony after a violent and divisive week.

Protesters tossed the troops oranges, cigarettes and bottles of water; the troops gave thumbs-up signs and left no doubt where their sympathies lie.

“We are with the people,” said Ahmed, a skinny 20-year-old soldier who would not give his last name.

When the soldiers invited the protesters onto their tanks, the crowd of thousands whistled, honked horns and allowed themselves to dream of a future for Egypt that just days ago looked unimaginable.

“This is freedom,” said Abdel Nasser-Awad, a 40-year-old businessman. “Now we know Mubarak will leave. The only question is when.”

MORE:

A Dying Regime Tries To Frighten A Revolution With The Noise Of Jet Planes And A Fire Truck!

Comment On The AlJazeera Article Following: T

The Evil Escaping Prisoners:

The dumbfucks at CNN and elsewhere who are trying to smear the revolution with their repeated whining about escaping prisoners don't bother to mention that Egypt's prisons are stuffed full of people chained up and tortured for opposing Mubarak's dictatorship, for organizing unions and strikes, or for simply being somebody that some corrupt piece of shit in the government didn't like.

Hopefully every regime prison in Egypt will soon be torn down and reduced to rubble.

Eugene Debs, American union and Socialist organizer, had it right: “While there is a lower class I am in it; while there is a criminal element I am of it; while there is a soul in prison, I am not free.”

The “security” this article reports is “deteriorating” is first and foremost the security for the super-rich parasites that have sucked the blood of 80 million Egyptians for time out of mind. Good. So much the better. Let their security vanish forever.

“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

As articles below report, people are organizing defense guards for their own neighborhoods to protect themselves from predators, whether rogue government police or local thugs. They will learn how to dispense their own form of justice.

That's real law and order, not the corrupt bullshit imposed by some pack of thieving politicians and their vampire dictatorship, commanding sadistic freaks in police uniforms. That's a useful example for other people in other places.

The Jet Planes:

As for the command mentality reported below that believes sending some jet planes to fly low over a people in revolution will cause them to "disperse," because the planes make a loud noise, it is most instructive.

What better example could be wished for of a government so backward, so utterly out of touch with the mood of masses, and so arrogantly determined to blunder into oblivion?

"Yes yes, they're just backward, ignorant trash, like little children. When they hear the big bad loud noise of our jet fighters and our helicopters over their heads, they will all run away in fear. That will be the end of it."

Rather than wasting time brandishing jet planes, or a fire truck, described next, and arriving at the same political destination the long way around, why not simply slit their own throats now and be done with it?

"There comes a time in the life of a dying regime, when every measure of repression only invites resistance, and every concession only invites contempt."

The Fire Truck:

Another of the regime's political geniuses has another idea. "Let's send a fire truck into Tahir Square to disperse them. That should do it. All we need is a fire truck, and they'll run away."

And then comes one of those seemingly small incidents, over in a few moments, that illuminates the power of a revolution moving forward:

"Al Jazeera's correspondent, reporting from the scene, said that demonstrators confronted a fire truck, at which point army troops fired into the air in a bid to disperse them.

"He said the protesters did not move back, and a tank commander then ordered the fire truck to leave.

"When the truck moved away from the square, the thousands of protesters erupted into applause and climbed onto the tank in celebration, hugging soldiers."

The hacks in command of what is left of the Mubarak regime have made a fatal political error for a dictatorship confronted by a revolution: they appear not only weak and ineffective, but ridiculous.

Almost as ridiculous as the Imperial politicians in Washington DC, who babble meaningless talking points about stable change in Egypt while events have left them far behind, stranded in irrelevance and talking to the air.

Fresh Hope:

It is not certain that that soldiers will come over to the Egyptian revolution if ordered to repress it.

But it is certain that these events in Egypt are a new beginning, and not only for Egyptians.

The oppressed of the whole world are looking on, watching, thinking, learning, and feeling fresh hope.

“On the other hand, proletarian revolutions, like those of the nineteenth century, constantly criticize themselves, constantly interrupt themselves in their own course, return to the apparently accomplished, in order to begin anew; they deride with cruel thoroughness the half-measures, weaknesses, and paltriness of their first attempts, seem to throw down their opponents only so the latter may draw new strength from the earth and rise before them again more gigantic than ever, recoil constantly from the indefinite colossalness of their own goals – until a situation is created which makes all turning back impossible ... “ -- The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte. Karl Marx 1852

30 Jan 2011 Al Jazeera and agencies

Egyptian air force fighter planes buzzed low over Cairo, helicopters hovered above and extra troop trucks appeared in a central square where protesters were demanding an end to President Hosni Mubarak's rule.

State television said that a curfew has been imposed in the capital and the military urged the protesters to go home.

But the thousands of protesters in Tahrir Square choosed to stay on Sunday.

As the protests continue, security is said to be deteriorating and reports have emerged of several prisons across the country being attacked and of fresh protests being staged in cities like Alexandria and Suez.

Thirty-four leaders from the Muslim Brotherhood were freed from the Wadi Natroun jail after guards abandoned their posts.

The protesters in Cairo, joined by hundreds of judges, had collected again in Tahrir Square afternoon to demand the resignation of Hosni Mubarak, the Egyptian president.

Al Jazeera's correspondent, reporting from the scene, said that demonstrators confronted a fire truck, at which point army troops fired into the air in a bid to disperse them.

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Earlier in the morning, Al Jazeera's Jane Dutton, also in Cairo, reported that the city appeared deserted in the early hours.

"The streets are very dirty, there is debris everywhere. The police have just disappeared. Any security at this stage is in the hands of the army."

Al Jazeera's correspondents in the port city of Alexandria have also said that anti-government protests have begun there, with hundreds of people on the streets.

The air force in Cairo has been attempting to disperse protesters, with fighter planes flying low over Tahrir Square on Sunday.

Al Jazeera correspondents say the noise from the planes was deafening and that the planes repeatedly flew over the crowds.

The absence of police has given looters a free rein, forcing ordinary citizens to set up neighbourhood patrols.

According to Dina Magdi, an eyewitness, unidentified men on Sunday morning came out of the interior ministry compound in a car and dumped a body on a street.

They then opened fire on people present in the area and fled. There were no immediate reports of casualties in that attack.

Al Jazeera's sources have indicated that the military has now also been deployed to the resort town of Sharm el Shaikh.

Sherine Tadros, Al Jazeera's correspondent in the city of Suez, said the city had witnessed a "completely chaotic night", but that the streets were quiet as day broke.

She reported that in the absence of police and military, people were "tak(ing) the law into their own hands", using "clubs, batons, sticks, machetes (and) knives" to protect their property.

"People are trying to get back to normal, but of course this is anything but," she said, adding that as the day wore on, the military had set up several checkpoints in an attempt to "show people that they are here and ... will provide some kind of security".

Rawya Rageh, our correspondent in Alexandria, reported similar scenes, saying that people were particularly concerned about their personal safety and that of their property.

She reported that the military in Alexandria was not focusing on protesters, attempting instead to prevent any further damage or theft of property.

On Saturday, an embattled Mubarak sacked his cabinet and appointed a vice-president and a new prime minister. But the move has failed to douse anger on the streets

Dutton said that protesters are unlikely to stop demonstrating, as they "want one thing, and one thing only: they want the leadership to go".

MORE:

“A Protester Chats Amicably With A Soldier”

**“They Tell Us That They Have Been
Given Orders To Shoot,” Says 22-
Year-Old Ashraf, “But They Are
Defying Their Orders”**

**““They Just Proved It,’ Pointing To A
Tank-Controlled Checkpoint Where
People Came Through At A Steady Rate”**



An Army officer is carried on the shoulders of the cheering protesters, who hope the Army will side with them. Getty Images. [Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Resistance Organization, who sent these in.]

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

31 January 2011 By Ruth Sherlock, The Scotsman [Excerpts]

As I walked through Tehrer Square in Cairo yesterday, the embattled protesters who had spent the night defying the military curfew gathered round.

The army was brought into force for the first time in decades on Friday, when Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak called a military curfew following violent clashes that caused police forces to withdraw. Thus far the army has shown restraint, giving protesters the freedom to demonstrate.

Minutes later in the square, the atmosphere became charged. "The army is closing the whole area."

The fear of the protesters as a military clampdown appeared imminent is indicative of the uncertain relationship between protesters and the army.

For the most part there is support for the military. "The army can save us from the police. The citizens will stay together with the army," said one man, his eye bandaged and his clothes torn and dusty after nights of breaking the curfew.

"People are welcoming the army on the streets," said Peri, a glamorously dressed student heading to the afternoon protest.

"The people know the army wouldn't turn against the people. That is what we feel. They just proved it," she said, pointing to a tank-controlled checkpoint where people came through at a steady rate.

There are stories of collaboration between the army and demonstrators. In a dark alley, a mosque has been transformed into a impromptu medical centre. With limited resources they treated the wounded from the previous night's firefight.

"We had 78 injuries," said a doctor who gave his name as Mohammed, "But we couldn't have treated them without the army. They saved us, protected us from the police who wanted to attack".

A protester chats amicably with a soldier. "They tell us that they have been given orders to shoot," says 22-year-old Ashraf, "but they are defying their orders"

MORE:

**"The Egyptian Army Seems To Side With
The Protesters"**

**"The Army Accompanied A March That
Followed Funerals Of The Casualties"**

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

January 30, 2011 Yohay, Forex Crunch [Excerpts]

The Egyptian army seems to side with the protesters.

They don't seem to have any will to break the demonstrations, and they are held aloft the masses.

The demonstration in Tahrir square in Cairo came out about alongside US-made tanks. The army just made sure no weapons were brought into the square.

Also in Alexandria, which has seen more bloodshed, the army accompanied a march that followed funerals of the casualties.

MORE:

**“I Think The Soldiers Themselves
Will Not Shoot People Dead, Or
Even Beat Them Up”
“I’m Saying The Soldiers Since I Am
Not Sure Of The Leaders”
[An Interview With Noha Atef – Egyptian
Journalist, Blogger And Dissident]**



Noha Atef photographing the Mexico offices of the daily Por Esto! newspaper, February 2010, while at the School of Authentic Journalism.

An Interview with Noha Atef – Egyptian Journalist, Blogger and Dissident – on the Historic Events Underway in Her Country

January 29, 2011 By Al Giordano, Special to The Narco News Bulletin [Excerpts]

Publisher's Note and Full Disclosure:

In October 2009, a then-24-year-old Egyptian journalist and blogger, Noha Atef, sent us her completed application to the Narco News School of Authentic Journalism.

We were moved by the work she had already accomplished, putting the issue of police torture of Egyptian citizens on the international and national agendas through her blog, TortureInEgypt.net, for which she and family members had been harassed, threatened and brought into police stations on multiple occasions.

Noha attended the 2010 j-school last February in Mexico, where she also led a plenary session on her work, and collaborated with other students and professors there to produce, in a few days, this viral video, also titled Torture in Egypt. Last June, I invited Noha to co-chair a plenary session (video, here) with me at Tufts University in Massachusetts, at The Fletcher Summer Institute for the Advanced Study of Nonviolent Conflict, an annual event organized by the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. In May, Noha will return to the School of Authentic Journalism not as a student, but as professor and will co-chair our Online Reporting work group.

Narco News: In many ways, the Mubarak regime's order to Internet companies to shut down the Egyptian people's access to the Internet is a compliment to people like you, who at blogs and online publications like your TortureInEgypt.net have informed about the real facts under his government, broken its censorship of the off-line press, and many commentators have credited all of you with the steady raising of public consciousness over recent years. Suddenly, history has taken a fast turn inside of Egypt, you found yourself outside of the country. How are you keeping informed of events? And how – telephones? alternate Internet access? other means of communication? – are those inside of Egypt getting the news out to the rest of the world?

Noha Atef: First I have to clarify that some topics (such as torture) were not mentioned in the Egyptian mainstream media, not only because of Mubarak's censorship, but also because there are some private newspapers and many TVs, and the owners of all these are businessmen, who eventually should be 'nice' with the regime that has control over their businesses.

Also would like to note, I'm abroad to study, not to escape, and I'm not on the run!

Today information finds its way in all cases, and for a journalist, getting updates shouldn't be a hard job.

I'm finding updates through satellite channels, calls with friends on landline phones, since they are still on, and also some activist friends get connected by dial-up, and SMSs from international journalists in Cairo, who are covering the protests and keeping their home mobile numbers working.

In Egypt, people have managed to spread the word, even if the media are not alerted.

For instance, last night the fire caught a building next to the Egyptian museum in Tahrir Square in Cairo, and while protecting until the army surrounded it, protestors called some TV channels, told them of the situation and asked them to spread it.

In every way, Egyptians tend to document their lives, I'm sure that after the Internet connection is back, a flood of mobile video and pictures will be uploaded.

Narco News: In the global media we are shown many demonstrations, and the grand majority of participants are young men.

Where are the women in the struggle and what are they doing?

Noha Atef: The women have been in this struggle from its beginning, I don't mean just on the 25th of January 2011, but even before this, since 2005, when the chant, 'Down with Mubarak' was first heard.

And in the hundreds of strikes that took place between 2007 and 2010, women were both organizers and participants. If anybody looks at the pictures taken back then, he will see women attending and sometimes leading the protest.

If you count me as someone who has done one's share in this struggle, you could likewise say that women are not absent.

Have a look at this video taken by a protestor, and count how many women appear: As you see, they are different ages, one of them is protesting while carrying her baby, and this protest was not in the capital, but a rural province (Zagazig).

I'm not sure of the reason behind not showing such footage in global media, maybe they didn't expect it; hence they didn't look for it!

Narco News: Another thing about the global media coverage is that it makes it seem that the only tactic being deployed is street demonstrations. What other tactics are opponents of the Mubarak regime doing that you have heard about?

Noha Atef: This time, it started with protests only, and then the escalation left no opportunity for creating something more in opposition to Mubarak, but just to handle the situation without stepping back. I mean since the protests kicked off, live and rubber bullets were shot, then Internet was shut off. Maybe there are some creative productions to be uploaded after the Egyptians return to cyberspace.

Here, I want to underscore something you might not hear in the global media; Mubarak's police were shooting people, and then arresting them! The injured didn't go to hospitals, since those who did were arrested.

Alternatively, a number of doctors volunteered to treat them. They got them off the streets with First Aid. They did what they could do in the houses and in the entrances of the buildings, and they received some injured in their private clinics.

I'd say, untraditional tactics were used for resisting the police, such as throwing garlic from balconies on the policemen when they beat protestors, also pouring water on them when they were in front of a building, raining them with small items when the beating starts. These things were used in the last century, when Egyptians resisted Napoleon's army, and now they do what their grandparents have done.

Just to add, I'm not sure if it's creative, but we heard Gamal Mubarak, the president's son, has a flat in London. I've just tracked this and got his exact address in the British capital, spread it, and now a demonstration in front of his flat is being discussed!

There have also been posters and poems. In addition there is also plenty of humor, jokes, which were enough to be featured in the magazine, Foreign Policy.

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[http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/01/02/three_decades_of_a_joke_that_just_wont_die?page=full]

Narco News: The global media began to pay attention during the January 25th demonstrations. Which sectors of Egyptian society organized those demonstrations?

Noha Atef: It is difficult to sort out the organizers, what happened was just a call for protests, a call on Facebook, for what seemed similar to the 6th April strike, but the surprise is that people were more angry than two years ago, then it went that massive.

On the first day, those who took to streets were addressing the people who stood at balconies, saying, 'come to us.'

The protestors you watch on TV, most of them are not politically active, most of Egyptians do not practice politics, as they lack the trust in politicians, and 'opposition parties' are in most cases nothing but puppets in the hands of the regime.

Meanwhile the active parties, such as Ayman Nour's party, are immensely paralyzed from taking actions.

To answer your question, I can say emphatically this is a hundred percent popular spontaneous movement.

The protestors are the organizers, No one dares to call himself 'the protest leader,' and no group has claimed it can organize over 80 million people in this huge country of Egypt. Nobody was able to do this.

However, I found some of the global media mentioning the Muslim Brotherhood (MB) as the organizing group, which is both funny and pathetic!

As MB announced in the 4th of January, it won't take part, although some of its young members didn't accept this and took to streets like the rest of Egyptians.

I see two explanations for hearing this in the global media, first is that Mubarak has been trying to convince the world that a kind of 'Islamic' opposition is trying to take over.

He does that because the US surely would prefer keeping a (fake) secular leader to an Islamic regime, therefore, the Ministry of Interior issued a statement on the 25th of January denouncing the protests lead by MB, a group that is officially absent!

The second possibility is that global media was deluded with the prayer scenes in the photos and videos.

I mean, probably their correspondents saw protestors praying, and mass protests scheduled after Friday prayer, then the it-must-be-Islamic assumption was made.

The truth is that if you ever have been to Egypt, you'll find people praying on streets, and they are not affiliated with Muslim Brothers.

Any non-Egyptian who has lived with us can confirm this to you.

And scheduling protests after Friday prayers is not new, since this day is the weekend in Egypt, both Muslims and Christians exercise their devotion in mosques and churches, hence you easily gather the people.

Now, if we moved from organizers to protestors themselves, the answer remains the same!

Egyptians are the protestors.

Christians and Muslims are protesting.

Today I heard on TV a call with someone in Cairo saying that Sheiks were protesting in their religious attire and bringing in their families.

This hasn't happened since the 1919 revolution. Women and men, youngsters and aged people, even children whose parents brought them along:

It's also been students, the well educated, skilled workers, the poor and the middle class all are protesting, even people with special needs participated. The amazing thing is that some police officers joined the protestors, too, and chanted with them against Mubarak!

Finally, no sectarian or sexist slogans were chanted. If someone says something of this kind, people don't repeat what he said. Instead they shout their favorite sentence. The people want to bring this regime down! I translated some slogans here.

Narco News: How do you analyze the speed with which the United States has changed its position from, on Wednesday, "Mubarak is our friend" to, on Thursday, "Mubarak must make reforms" to, on Friday, "Mubarak must allow free assembly, open the Internet, and we won't say whether we stand with him or not"?

Noha Atef: I cannot analyze the American positions regarding anything! It's too complicated for someone who is not a political commentator to read behind the lines what the US writes.

But I can tell you what United States means to the Egyptian protestors; look at this picture one of them took.

This is one of the hundreds of teargas cans that were thrown in Cairo.

It's Made in U.S.A.

I know it doesn't necessarily mean the American administration sent it to Mubarak. Maybe he merely got it from a U.S. based factory.

But who gave him the dollars?

Unfortunately, the American taxpayers' money was being sent to support dictators, who are experienced enough to convince Obama that they're guarding the borders, or fighting terrorism.

Let me get more honest with you, when we Egyptians do something, we don't expect support from any part. For us, it's empowering to get support from an Arab nation, and encouraging seeing westerners give us the thumbs up.

Narco News: We are told by the global media that when the Army came into the streets with its tanks, demonstrators in many areas welcomed them. How much do you trust that the Army will continue to exercise restraint and not repress the assemblies?

Noha Atef: That's true! I know many people would not believe it, as the Army in many countries is involved in the dirty work. But in Egypt it's the opposite.

Unlike policemen, the military is respected and considered a guard or a freedom fighter; I, and my generation, had our fathers serving or volunteering in the military in the years of the sixties and seventies. We believe that the Army is protecting Egypt.

We love the soldiers as much as we hate the police officers, who insult people, torture them and extort money, unlike the military officer.

I think the soldiers themselves will not shoot people dead, or even beat them up, I'm saying the soldiers since I am not sure of the leaders.

Something to add: Today a protestor in Tahrir square in Cairo mentioned that protesters were allowed to ride over the tanks and move around the square while chanting, 'People want to have this regime down', which is meaningful I think!

Narco News: What do you think could happen next?

Noha Atef: Mubarak will step down, or get a heart attack! Anyway, this regime is dead!

Narco News: What do you want to happen next?

Noha Atef: When the country gets rid of the corrupt dictator, the chief of the constitutional court will take over. A president should be chosen in four months. He should amend the Constitution to enable candidates to run for the presidency (now the conditions for candidacy are too hard for anyone but Mubarak or his son Gamal!). Afterwards, a new president and a new parliament will make a new constitution.

This what the people want, and I think it will happen.

Narco News: How can people around the world in solidarity with the Egyptian people best help their cause today?

Noha Atef: People around the world are already showing great solidarity, many of them shared their Internet passwords with Egyptians when the DSL was shut down. They emailed Egyptians in the Diaspora so we could connect with our families at home and let them get connected.

I wish people would carry on sending solidarity messages to their Egyptian friends, on Facebook and every other way.

They will come back online one day and will feel very proud to see such messages.

Also spread the word to let others know that people in Egypt are changing their country. This might stimulate others to do the same, especially those who used to label Arabs as 'oppressed people,' 'oppressed women,' or 'oppressed minds.'

If you don't agree with your government position toward Egypt, express your disagreement!

Finally, when the dictator dashes off, you should come and visit. I'm not going to say how you will like the country, the people and the details of life, but you'll get to listen to more great stories, much more honorable than what you hear in the media.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?

Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Afghanistan, Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the wars, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 888.711.2550

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

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

January 29, 2010 Reuters

Two foreign servicemembers died following an improvised explosive device attack in southern Afghanistan today.

Tragic Homecoming: Marine From Lehigh Killed In Afghanistan On His Way Home

January 24, 2011 By MEL TOADVINE, Cape Coral Daily Breeze

A Marine from Lehigh Acres, who was killed in action in Afghanistan, will come home to rest sometime this week.

Sgt. Jason G. Amores, 29, was killed in Afghanistan last Thursday, Jan. 20, when he stepped on an explosive device in Helmand province, Afghanistan while conducting combat operations. He was serving in the Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

It was his first deployment in Afghanistan; he had been deployed to Iraq twice previously.

In the late '90s while he was in Lehigh Senior High School, Amores was affectionately called “Mowgli.” He played the saxophone and was an active member of the Lehigh Senior High School's Marching Band.

On Saturday, Amores' family, his wife, Jennifer, his parents, Beverly and Curtis Middleton and his brother, Jeremiah, and other family members were waiting for a 3 p.m. flight to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware from Afghanistan.

His father, Curt, was the first editor of The Lehigh Acres Citizen, a Breeze Newspapers publication, and later was publisher of the old Lehigh Acres News Star. Sometime after he left The Star, he moved from Lehigh. Today, the Marine's parents live in Olive Branch, Miss., where Middleton has retired, and is writing a book.

Reached Saturday afternoon just minutes before the flight arrived, Middleton said that the family was very upset, as expected, but that they were proud of their son who had served his country so valiantly.

Amore's wife, Jennifer, and their two children had been making their home at Camp Pendleton, Calif., while her husband was in combat in Afghanistan. She is from Lehigh Acres, too. Both went to school in Lehigh. Her parents are Dan and Vicki Wilson of Lehigh Acres.

His brother, Jeremiah, was also in Dover Saturday for the arrival of his brother's body. Jeremiah and Jason has joined the U.S. Marine Corps on the same day in 2004, and had gone through basic training and advanced training together. The two brothers were very close. Jason graduated from Lehigh Senior High School in 1999. Jeremiah left the Marine Corps and moved to Colorado, where he attended college.

Middleton said both he and his wife, and his son's wife in California, all received the terrible news at the same time.

"Two Marine cars pulled up in front of our house in Mississippi. I saw them and knew the news was bad," Middleton said. At about the very same moment, the same thing was happening at Jennifer's house at Camp Pendleton.

"That's the way they do it apparently, informing the parents and the spouses at the same time even though they may live in different parts of the country," Middleton said.

Jason and Jennifer have two children, a son, Korbin, 9 and a daughter, Violet, 3.

"All the family is here in Dover," Middleton said.

"We have been told that when the flight lands, the caskets draped with the American flag will be brought off the cargo plane and that there would be a ceremony for the families and friends who went to Dover to be there when their loved one's remains arrived. Then Middleton said the bodies are taken to a mortuary on the Air Force Base.

Middleton said it was a very difficult for everyone in the family. Also at Dover were Jason's two sisters Rebecca, 21, and Samantha, 19.

"My wife, Beverly, has been crying ever since we got the news last Thursday afternoon. It's just very hard on her as it is with the other members of the family," Middleton said.

Sgt. Jason Amores' remains were to be brought back to Southwest Florida this week, Middleton said. Middleton said services for his son would be private and for the family only.

"I'm doing OK," Middleton said. "But my wife and Jason's wife, and his brother and sisters are having a rough time."

"Our memories will always remain of just how proud of Jason we were of his serving his nation. We are very proud of him," Middleton said.

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

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

Three Occupation Fuel Delivery Trucks Destroyed In Pakistan

Jan 30 AFP

QUETTA, Pakistan – Militants in southwestern Pakistan attacked three trucks after they returned from delivering supplies to foreign troops in Afghanistan, police said Sunday.

The incident took place near the town of Wadh, some 380 kilometres (235 miles) south of Quetta, the capital of oil- and gas-rich Baluchistan province which borders Iran and Afghanistan.

“Unknown gunmen fired at three NATO trucks, one of them overturned and the two other trucks were set ablaze by the attackers,” local police official Juma Khan told AFP. “There were no injuries to drivers,” he said.

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

January 31, 1876: Odious Betrayal



Sitting Bull: One of several chiefs who refused to comply.

Carl Bunin Peace History Jan 28 - Feb 3

The U.S. government ordered that all Native Americans must move to reservations by this date or be declared hostile.

Most Sioux did not even hear of the ultimatum until after the deadline.

Major General Philip Sheridan considered the notification exercise a waste of time.

January 31, 1968: Resistance Anniversary: The Tet Offensive

Peace History: Carl Bunin

The Tet (the lunar new year) Offensive began as North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces launched surprise attacks against major cities, provincial and district capitals in South Vietnam.

The attack had been anticipated but, nonetheless, half of the ARVN troops (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) were on leave because of the holiday.

There were attacks in Saigon (the South's capital) on the Independence Palace (the residence of the president), the radio station, the ARVN's joint General Staff Compound, Tan Son Nhut airfield, and the United States embassy, causing considerable damage and throwing the city into turmoil.

January 31, 1945: Anniversary Of A Murder; The Execution Of Private Eddy Slovik



Pvt. Eddy Slovik

Carl Bunin Peace History Jan 28 - Feb 3

Private Eddie Slovik became the first American soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion.

Supreme Allied Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered Slovik's execution be carried out, he said, to avoid further desertions in the late stages of the war.

[Excerpt from the article by Joe Allen; Death Row At The "Castle": Inside The U.S. Military's Judicial System; the International Socialist Review. Joe Allen is a member of Teamsters Local 705 in Chicago and the International Socialist Organization.]

Alvin "Tommy" Bridges, a military policeman during the war and a future police chief, recounted his very bitter memories of "military justice" to Studs Terkel in the Good War: "They shot some of those same guys up there that were—if you'd go to a municipal court, they'd dismiss the case. Depending a lot upon the commanding officer."

Near the end of his narrative, Bridges makes clear the extent of summary "justice" and who was responsible:

"Eisenhower says that's the only guy (Eddie Slovik) that was ever executed for it (desertion). That's what burns me up, when a gross of them that I know were executed for probably more minor things than what Slovik was. They said he was the only one. We had to make a show of it. The son-of-a-bitches."

Eddie Slovik was a Polish working-class kid from Detroit who had a minor criminal record and spent some years in a youth reformatory. His draft classification was originally 4-F (unfit for military service) and therefore not eligible to be drafted. He married and got a decent paying job in the auto industry, whereupon he was reclassified 1-A.

The army was then drafting anybody it could get its hands on in preparation for the invasion of Europe. It was also clear that Slovik couldn't kill a living thing and was terrified of combat. In his "confession" after he deserted he said, "I'll run away again if I have to go their." (He misspelled "there," and by "there" he meant going into combat).

Over 40,000 other deserters tried by lesser courts-martial were punished by confinement to disciplinary centers or dishonorably discharged. Another 2,864 were tried by general courts-martial. Most were sentenced to long terms in prisons (many left prison soon after the war was over), but forty-nine were sentenced to death. All the sentences for desertion were commuted except Slovik's.

Slovik's story is recounted in William Bradford Huie's book The Execution of Private Slovik.

Why Slovik?

It seems likely that the reason Slovik was singled out was because he deserted at the time of stiffening German resistance in late 1944, when the Allied forces came

dangerously close to collapsing on the Western front. Yet, curiously, the army never publicized his execution beyond his company, never told his wife, and buried him in a secret cemetery.

It would be nearly a decade after Slovik's death before Huie began investigating the strange circumstances surrounding it. Despite the efforts of many people, Slovik's wife never received the paltry \$10,000 plus interest she asked for in GI life insurance. Slovik's remains were finally returned to the U.S. in 1987, to be buried beside the grave of his deceased wife.

While many people believe that Slovik was the only American soldier executed during the war, that is not true.

Many were executed on charges other than desertion, and African American soldiers once again bore the brunt of these executions.

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.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

Sometimes Dreams Come True

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThvBJMzmSZI>

Demonstrations Break Out Against Sudan Dictatorship: “Revolution, Revolution Until Victory”

**“Protests Without Permission, Which
Is Rarely Given, Are Illegal”**

“Sudan Is In Deep Economic Crisis”

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

1.30.2010 By Khaled Abdelaziz, Reuters [Excerpts]

KHARTOUM — Sudanese police beat and arrested students on Sunday as hundreds protested throughout the capital demanding the government resign, inspired by a popular uprising in neighbouring Egypt.

Armed riot police broke up groups of young Sudanese demonstrating in central Khartoum and surrounded the entrances of four universities in the capital, firing teargas and beating students at three of them.

Some 500 young people also protested in the city of el-Obeid in North Kordofan in the west of the country.

Police beat students with batons as they chanted anti-government slogans such as “we are ready to die for Sudan” and “revolution, revolution until victory.”

Groups have emerged on social networking sites calling themselves “Youth for Change” and “The Spark,” since the uprisings in nearby Tunisia and close ally Egypt this month.

“Youth for Change” has attracted more than 15,000 members.

“The people of Sudan will not remain silent any more,” its Facebook page said.

The pro-democracy group Girifna (“We're fed up”) said nine members were detained the night before the protest and opposition party officials listed almost 40 names of protesters arrested on Sunday. Five were injured, they added.

Sudan has a close affinity with Egypt -- the two countries were united under British colonial rule. The unprecedented scenes there inspired calls for similar action in Sudan, where protests without permission, which is rarely given, are illegal.

Before Tunisia's popular revolt, Sudan was the last Arab country to overthrow a leader with popular protests, ousting Jaafar Nimeiri in 1985.

Opposition leader Mubarak al-Fadil told Reuters two of his sons were arrested on their way to the central protest.

Editor-in-chief of the al-Wan daily paper Hussein Khogali said his daughter had been detained by security forces since 8 a.m. (1 a.m. EST) accused of organising the Facebook-led protest.

Around 500 protestors engulfed the market in the North Kordofan capital el-Obeid in Sudan's west, before police used tear gas to disperse them, three witnesses said.

“They were shouting against the government and demanding change,” said witness Ahmed who declined to give his full name.

Sudan is in deep economic crisis which analysts blame on government overspending and misguided policies.

A bloated import bill caused foreign currency shortages and forced an effective devaluation of the Sudanese pound last year, sparking soaring inflation.

Early this month the government cut subsidies on petroleum products and key commodity sugar, triggering smaller protests throughout the north.

Thousands Go To The Streets In Jordan Against The Royal Dictatorship: Demonstrations Across The Country Demand The Prime Minister Get Out



Thousands took to the street across Jordan demanding the prime minister step down
[Reuters]

Thousands of people in Jordan have taken to the streets in protests, demanding the country's prime minister step down, and the government curb rising prices, inflation and unemployment.

In the third consecutive Friday of protests, about 3,500 opposition activists from Jordan's main Islamist opposition group, trade unions and leftist organisations gathered in the capital, waving colourful banners reading: "Send the corrupt guys to court".

The crowd denounced Samir Rifai's, the prime minister, and his unpopular policies.

Many shouted: "Rifai go away, prices are on fire and so are the Jordanians."

Another 2,500 people also took to the streets in six other cities across the country after the noon prayers. Those protests also called for Rifai's ouster.

Members of the Islamic Action Front, the political wing of the Muslim Brotherhood and Jordan's largest opposition party, swelled the ranks of the demonstrators, massing outside the al-Husseini mosque in Amman and filling the downtown streets with their prayer lines.

King Abdullah has promised some reforms, particularly on a controversial election law.

But many believe it is unlikely he will bow to demands for the election of the prime minister and Cabinet officials, traditionally appointed by the king.

Rifai also announced a \$550 million package of new subsidies in the last two weeks for fuel and staple products like rice, sugar, livestock and liquefied gas used for heating and cooking. It also includes a raise for civil servants and security personnel.

However, Jordan's economy continues to struggle, weighed down by a record deficit of \$2bn this year.

Inflation has also risen by 1.5 per cent to 6.1 per cent just last month, unemployment and poverty are rampant - estimated at 12 and 25 per cent respectively.

Ibrahim Alloush, a university professor, told the Associated Press that it was not a question of changing faces or replacing one prime minister with another.

"We're demanding changes on how the country is now run," he said.

He also accused the government of impoverishing the working class with regressive tax codes which forced the poor to pay a higher proportion of their income as tax.

He also accused parliament as serving as a "rubber stamp" to the executive branch. "This is what has led people to protest in the streets because they don't have venues for venting how they feel through legal means," Alloush said.

“Tens Of Thousands” March To Honor Anti-Dictatorship Martyrs Murdered By Albanian Police Last Week; They Defy “International Appeals And Police Warnings”

January 29, 2011 AFP

TIRANA: Tens of thousands of demonstrators gathered in the Albanian capital Tirana Friday for a silent protest closely monitored by police, a week after another demonstration turned deadly.

The opposition went ahead with the protest in defiance of international appeals and police warnings, insisting it would be a peaceful gathering to honour the three people killed last week.

The demonstrators headed by the leadership of the opposition socialists and the families of the victims started their march on the government buildings, passing by the spot where the people were shot, placing flowers at the scene in silence.

Organisers said there were 200,000 protesters but AFP journalists put the number at several tens of thousands. Police would give no figure.

People poured into the downtown area near the government buildings, bringing traffic in central Tirana to a standstill.

In the square in front of the government a stage had been set up and opposition leader Edi Rama, the mayor of the capital, was expected to address the crowds.

Pictures of the three fatalities of the last rally were placed on stage with the words 'justice' written on them in Albanian and English.

Security was beefed up around Tirana with hundreds of anti-riot police deployed around government buildings alongside units of armed elite officers.

The protest was the main item on all Albanian TV channels which repeatedly broadcast an earlier statement by Rama pledging that the rally would be peaceful.

'I want to assure you that it will be peaceful and quiet, there will be flowers and candles,' Rama said late Thursday, urging everybody to resist possible provocation.

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 single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.” Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

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

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

<http://williambowles.info/wordpress/category/military-resistance/> ;

news@uruknet.info; http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/;

<http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?header=res1&mod=gis&rep=gis>

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