

Military Resistance 9A9



AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Zapata Soldier Killed In Afghanistan

January 11, 2011 By Elizabeth Findel, The Monitor

McALLEN — A Zapata man was one of two 10th Mountain Division Soldiers killed Friday in Afghanistan.

Pfc. Ira B. Laningham, 22, of Zapata, and Spc. Ethan C. Hardin, 25, of Fayetteville, Ark., were serving in Logar Province when insurgents attacked their unit with an improvised explosive device and small arms fire. Both were infantrymen from the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, based in Fort Polk, La.

Laningham joined the Army in November 2009 and arrived in Fort Polk in June 2010 after completing training.

He was married Oct. 18, 2010, to Pfc. Stephanie Laningham, who he had met at Fort Polk and dated for only a few months. The two were deployed to Afghanistan together four days later.

"He called me and told me he was engaged and said, 'Mom, I think I'm in love,'" Laningham's mother, Norma Cantu, said. "I didn't get to attend, it was such short notice."

Laningham told his mother not to worry — he and Stephanie were planning a big wedding at Disney World when they got back from Afghanistan.

Stephanie Laningham accompanied her husband's body back to U.S. soil, arriving at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware Sunday night. She will get 30 days of emergency leave from her tour of duty and plans to spend at least part of that time staying with Cantu, who has only met her once.

Cantu said her son was a music lover who sang, played the trumpet and taught himself how to play the guitar. He enjoyed spending time with his family, including two brothers and a sister. "Oh my gosh, they were a group," Cantu said of her sons and their cousins. Laningham's brother Pfc. Joseph Cantu is also in the Army, stationed in Oklahoma.

Cantu struggled to keep from breaking down in tears when she described how she and the rest of the family was coping. "I'm trying to be strong because he didn't want me to cry," she said.

At Zapata High School, where he graduated in 2006, Laningham is remembered as a popular student who played in the school marching and mariachi bands. Principal Jose Flores said the school had to create a schedule so Laningham could fit in band, ROTC and advanced placement courses.

Sometimes, families of Zapata veterans would call the school to see if anyone could play taps at funerals, Flores said. While he was in high school, that person was always Laningham. "He took a lot of pride in going and playing taps for the veterans," Flores said.

Funeral plans have not been finalized for Laningham yet, because the family doesn't know when his body will arrive in Texas, but Flores said the school will be ready to assist if asked.

"I'm sure we can find someone to play taps for him," he said.

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

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

**THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO COMPREHENSIBLE
REASON TO BE IN THIS EXTREMELY HIGH RISK
LOCATION AT THIS TIME, EXCEPT THAT THE
PACK OF TRAITORS THAT RUN THE
GOVERNMENT IN D.C. WANT YOU THERE TO
DEFEND THEIR IMPERIAL DREAMS:
That is not a good enough reason.**



U.S. soldiers of Bravo Company 2-327 Infantry take cover after Taliban attacked them during a patrol in Chowkay district near Pakistani border in Kunar province, eastern Afghanistan, Dec 28, 2010. (AP Photo/Rafiq Maqbool)

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.

MILITARY NEWS

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



The coffin containing Puerto Rico National Guard Sgt. Jose Alberto Delgado, 41, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, January 14, 2011. Delgado was killed by an IED in Taji, Iraq, Jan. 2, 2011. (AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)

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

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**

“Blair Says God Will Be His Judge” “Sory The People Are His Judge”

[This is a message to Americans from Rose Gentle. Her son Gordon was killed in Iraq. Ever since, she and other UK military family members have been hunting down former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who killed her son and many more. Her words carry more weight, and contain more truth, than 5000 pages of bullshit from the politicians. T]

From: Rose Gentle
To: Military Resistance
Subject: Re: Military Resistance 9A8: Read Our Future
Date: Jan 17, 2011

its has been a long time that i have been on
but i have been keeping up the fight agenst tony blair on the iraq war,
tony blair has now been calld back to the iraq inquiry on the 21rst of jan,
i will be going back down to london to here more lies that that
man will come out with.
the inquiry will question blair on the lies and the questions that he did not ancer
the last time that he was calld,
we all know that he lied, he has lied that much he now beleves what he is
saying,
blair says god will be his judge,
sory the people are his judge,
that man will never to go hiven, with our angels,
mum of fus. gordon gentle
age 19 kilied in iraq, 2004. ,
from the uk,

Shameful Anniversary: Jan. 17, 1893:

A Pack Of Thieving American Sugar Plantation Owners Use U.S. Marines To Rape Hawaii; “The Righteous Reformers Were Determined To Save The Hawaiians From Self-Government”



'Iolani Palace, draped in black for 1993's observance of the centennial of the overthrow of the monarchy, was a moving, powerful symbol to Hawaiians who participated in a torchlight ceremony.

Carl Bunin Peace History January 17-23

May 1994 By Pat Pitzer, Spirit Of Aloha Magazine [Excerpts]

Hawai'i entered the decade of the 1890s as a kingdom and emerged from it as a Territory of the United States, with a provisional government and a republic in between..

The storm that had been gathering broke on Jan. 17, 1893, when the Hawaiian monarchy ended in a day of bloodless revolution.

Armed insurrection by a relatively small group of men, most of them American by birth or heritage, succeeded in wresting control of the Islands with the backing of American troops sent ashore from a warship in Honolulu Harbor.

To this "superior force of the United States of America," Queen Lili'uokalani yielded her throne, under protest, in order to avoid bloodshed, trusting that the United States government would right the wrong that had been done to her and the Hawaiian people.

Sugar and a coerced constitution played roles in the drama -- intertwined themes of economics and politics.

Sugar was by far the principal support of the Islands, and profits and prosperity hinged on favorable treaties with the United States, Hawaiian sugar's chief market, creating powerful economic ties.

As the Islands' sugar industry grew, large numbers of contract laborers were imported first from China, then from Japan and other countries, to work on the plantations -- the beginning of Hawai'i's present multicultural population.

Plantation ownership and control of the business community were in the hands of men of American or European blood.

In 1887, during the reign of Lili'uokalani's brother, King Kalakaua, a group of planters and businessmen, seeking to control the kingdom politically as well as economically, formed a secret organization, the Hawaiian League. Membership (probably never over 400, compared to the 40,000 Native Hawaiians in the kingdom) was predominantly American, including several missionary descendants.

Organizer and fire brand of the league was Lorrin A. Thurston, a lawyer and missionary grandson, who would later be a leader in the overthrow of the monarchy, with many of the same men.

Their goal, for now, was to "reform" the monarchy. But reform, like beauty, was in the eye of the beholder. The Native Hawaiians looked up to their sovereigns with respect and aloha. Kalakaua and Lili'uokalani were well-educated, intelligent, skilled in social graces, and equally at home with Hawaiian traditions and court ceremony.

Above all, they were deeply concerned about the well-being of the Hawaiian people and maintaining the independence of the kingdom.

The league's more radical members favored the king's abdication -- one even proposed assassination -- but cooler heads prevailed. They would allow the king to remain on the throne with his power sharply limited by a new constitution of their making.

Dethroning him would be a last resort, if he refused to comply.

Many Hawaiian League members belonged to a volunteer militia, the Honolulu Rifles, which was officially in service to the Hawaiian government, but was secretly the league's military arm.

Kalakaua was compelled to accept a new Cabinet composed of league members, who presented their constitution to him for his signature at 'Iolani Palace.

The reluctant king argued and protested, but finally signed the document, which became known as the Bayonet Constitution.

As one Cabinet member noted, "Little was left to the imagination of the hesitating and unwilling sovereign, as to what he might expect in the event of his refusal to comply with the demands made upon him."

The Bayonet Constitution greatly curtailed the king's power, making him a mere figurehead. It placed the actual executive power in the hands of the Cabinet, whose members could no longer be dismissed by the king, only by the Legislature. Amending this constitution was also the exclusive prerogative of the Legislature.

The Bayonet Constitution's other purpose was to remove the Native Hawaiian majority's dominance at the polls and in the Legislature.

The righteous reformers were determined to save the Hawaiians from self-government.

The privilege of voting was no longer limited to citizens of the kingdom, but was extended to foreign residents -- provided they were American or European.

Asians were excluded -- even those who had become naturalized citizens.

The House of Nobles, formerly appointed by the king, would now be elected, and voters and candidates for it had to meet a high property ownership or income requirement -- which excluded two-thirds of the Native Hawaiian voters.

While they could still vote for the House of Representatives, to do so they had to swear to uphold the despised Bayonet Constitution.

The Hawaiians strenuously opposed the diminution of their voice in governing their own country and resented the reduction of the monarch's powers and the manner in which the Bayonet Constitution had been forced on him. Hawaiians, Chinese and Japanese petitioned the king to revoke the constitution. The self-styled Reform Cabinet responded that only an act of the Legislature could do this - though their new constitution had never been put to a vote.

For the remaining years of the monarchy, efforts to amend or replace the constitution received widespread support. The constitutional controversy proved to be the spark that ignited the overthrow of the monarchy.

In 1889 a young part-Hawaiian named Robert W. Wilcox staged an uprising to overthrow the Bayonet Constitution. He led some 80 men, Hawaiians and Europeans, with arms purchased by the Chinese, in a predawn march to 'Iolani Palace with a new constitution for Kalakaua to sign. The king was away from the palace, and the Cabinet called out troops who forcibly put down the insurrection.

Tried for conspiracy, Wilcox was found not guilty by a jury of Native Hawaiians, who considered him a folk hero.

A new constitution would have to be another monarch's responsibility. On Jan. 20, 1891, King Kalakaua died of kidney disease at age 54. He lay in state in the throne room of 'Iolani Palace, which during his reign had been the scene of many gala receptions and grand balls.

Like her brother, the new queen was childless. She named as her successor to the throne her niece, Princess Ka'iulani, who was away at school in London.

Lili'uokalani's husband, John Dominis, an American sea captain's son, died just seven months after she became queen.

She would soon face a formidable threat to the monarchy and the independence of the kingdom.

In early 1892 Lorrin Thurston and a group of like-minded men, mostly of American blood, formed an Annexation Club, plotting the overthrow of the queen and annexation to the United States. They kept the organization small and secret - wisely, since they were talking treason.

Thurston went to Washington to promote annexation, and received an encouraging message from President Benjamin Harrison: "You will find an exceedingly sympathetic administration here."

In Honolulu, Hawaiians spoke out strongly for their monarchy and presented numerous petitions to the Legislature to replace the Bayonet Constitution, to no avail.

The queen had also been deluged with petitions for a new constitution, signed by an estimated two-thirds of the kingdom's voters, and she boldly prepared to act on their wishes. In her book, *Hawai'i's Story by Hawai'i's Queen*, she noted, "The right to grant a constitution to the nation has been, since the very first one was granted, a prerogative of the Hawaiian sovereigns."

On Jan. 14, the first of four crucial days in Hawai'i's history, the queen presided at noon over the legislative session's closing ceremonies at the Government Building. She then walked across the street to 'Iolani Palace for a more significant ceremony. She was about to proclaim a new constitution which she had written, restoring power to the throne and rights to the Native Hawaiian people.

The Royal Hawaiian Band played as the queen's invited guests, including diplomats, legislators and Hawaiian petitioners, assembled in the throne room, and a large crowd of Native Hawaiians gathered on the palace lawn.

As the audience waited, the queen argued heatedly with her Cabinet, who refused to sign her new constitution, fearing her enemies would use it as a pretext to challenge her. They finally persuaded her to defer action on it.

The queen addressed the guests in the throne room, and the crowd on the palace grounds, telling them that she was ready to promulgate a new constitution, but yielding to the advice of her ministers, was postponing it to some future day.

Alerted earlier of the queen's intention by two of her Cabinet members, the Annexation Club sprang into action.

A 13-member Committee of Safety was chosen to plan the overthrow of the queen and the establishment of a provisional government. As they plotted revolution, they claimed that the queen, by proposing to alter the constitution, had committed "a revolutionary act."

The American warship USS Boston was in port at Honolulu Harbor.

With an eye toward landing troops, Lorrin Thurston and two others called upon the American minister in Hawai'i, John L. Stevens, an avowed annexationist. Stevens assured them he would not protect the queen, and that he would land troops from the Boston if necessary "to protect American lives and property."

He also said that if the revolutionaries were in possession of government buildings and actually in control of the city, he would recognize their provisional government.

The next day, Jan. 15, Thurston told the queen's Cabinet that the Committee of Safety would challenge her.

In an effort to stave off the mounting crisis, the queen issued a proclamation declaring that she would not seek to alter the constitution except by constitutional means.

Unsuccessfully, she sought Minister Stevens' assurance that he would support her government against armed insurrection. The kingdom's marshal proposed declaring martial law and arresting the Committee of Safety, but the Cabinet feared this would lead to armed conflict, and Lili'uokalani wished to avoid bloodshed.

On Jan. 16, several hundred Native Hawaiians and other royalists gathered peaceably at Palace Square in support of the queen, expressing loyalty to the monarchy, and carefully avoiding saying anything inflammatory.

Simultaneously, at the mass meeting called by the Committee of Safety at the armory, the speeches were incendiary.

Lorrin Thurston vehemently denounced the queen and asked the crowd to empower the committee to act as it deemed necessary. The resolution passed amid cheers. No one had mentioned overthrowing the monarchy, but the unspoken was apparently understood by all.

The Marines Are Used To Invade Hawaii And Overthrow The Government For A Pack Of Thieving Sugar Growers

The Committee of Safety delivered a letter to Minister Stevens requesting him to land troops from the Boston, stating that "the public safety is menaced and life and property are in peril."

At 5 that afternoon, 162 fully armed troops from the Boston came ashore.

A few of the marines were posted at the American Consulate and Legation, but the main body of troops marched through downtown Honolulu past 'Iolani Palace.

They were quartered less than a block from the Government Building and the palace. While the troops were ordered ashore ostensibly "to protect American lives and property," their placement close to the palace was threatening.

Members of the queen's Cabinet hastened to Stevens to protest the troops' presence, but it made no difference.

The Committee of Safety had initially proposed that Thurston head the government, but he said he was considered such a "radical mover" it would be better to choose someone more conservative.

Dole, The Pineapple Man, Becomes President Of Hawaii

They then offered the presidency to Sanford B. Dole, another of the "mission boys," as Thurston called them.

Dole had declined to take part in the revolution except for drafting documents. Rather than abolishing the monarchy, he favored replacing the queen with a regency holding the throne in trust until Princess Ka'iulani came of age. Still, he accepted the presidency and submitted his resignation as a justice in Hawai'i's Supreme Court.

On the morning of Jan. 17, Dole gave Stevens a letter from Thurston, asking for his recognition of the provisional government, which they planned to proclaim at 3 that afternoon.

The American minister told Dole, "I think you have a great opportunity."

They also had luck. Just as Dole and the Committee of Safety were about to set out to take possession of the Government Building, Hawaiian police halted a wagon loaded with arms for the insurgents, and the driver shot a policeman in the shoulder. (This was the only blood shed during the revolution.) The sound of the shot drew a crowd, including the policemen who had been keeping an eye on the Committee of Safety, and in the confusion, they walked to the Government Building unnoticed.

The building was unguarded and nearly deserted, and few people heard the proclamation that was read from its steps, declaring the end of the monarchy and the establishment of a provisional government as an interim measure until annexation to the United States could be achieved.

The American troops were lined up nearby. Minister Stevens immediately, and prematurely, recognized the provisional government.

On Jan. 17, 1893, at dusk, Queen Lili'uokalani yielded her throne under protest, with these words:

"I, Lili'uokalani, by the grace of God and under the constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Queen, do hereby solemnly protest against any and all acts done against myself and the constitutional government of the Hawaiian Kingdom by certain persons claiming to have established a Provisional Government of and for this Kingdom.

"That I yield to the superior force of the United States of America, whose Minister Plenipotentiary, His Excellency John L. Stevens, has caused United States troops to be landed at Honolulu and declared that he would support the said Provisional Government.

"Now, to avoid any collision of armed forces and perhaps loss of life, I do, under this protest, and impelled by said forces, yield my authority until such time as the Government of the United States shall, upon the facts being presented to it, undo the action of its representative and reinstate me in the authority which I claim as the constitutional sovereign of the Hawaiian Islands."

The queen surrendered Hawai'i's sovereignty not to the revolutionaries but to the "superior force of the United States of America" -- temporarily, she believed -- confident that the American government would restore her to the throne.

After the queen yielded, the marshal surrendered the police station house, and at the barracks, the Queen's Royal Guards stacked their arms.

Having stated her case in writing, Lili'uokalani retired to her private residence, Washington Place, urging the leaders of her people to avoid riot and to await tranquilly the result of her appeal to the United States government.

The U.S. Ambassador Says "Pluck Hawaii"

The provisional government took over the palace and declared martial law.

Later, at its request, Minister Stevens proclaimed Hawai'i a temporary protectorate and raised the American flag over government buildings.

He wrote the State Department urging annexation, saying, "The Hawaiian pear is now fully ripe, and this is the golden hour for the United States to pluck it."

The provisional government had chartered a steamer, and Thurston and four others hastened to Washington with a treaty of annexation in hand. The queen's envoys were refused permission to sail on the same ship, and by the time they reached Washington, President Harrison had already sent the annexation treaty to the Senate.

But Harrison was in his last days in power, and Grover Cleveland, who replaced him, withdrew the treaty.

Lili'uokalani wrote to Cleveland requesting redress, and young Princess Ka'iulani went to Washington to appeal for the monarchy and the Hawaiian nation, impressing the president and all who met her with her beauty and dignity.

President Cleveland sent to Honolulu special commissioner James H. Blount, former chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Blount's job was to investigate the

circumstances of the revolution, the role Minister Stevens and American troops played in it, and to determine the feelings of the people of Hawai'i toward the provisional government.

Blount's instructions were secret, but it was known that his word would be "paramount," concerning the United States in the Islands, so he was given the nickname "Paramount Blount."

He ordered the troops back to their ship and the American flag taken down and replaced by the Hawaiian flag.

Accessible to all who wished to talk to him, he cordially and impartially heard a steady stream of people from both sides. Over four months, he assembled a vast amount of information from interviews, letters and documents.

Blount's final report charged that Stevens conspired in the overthrow of the monarchy, which would not have taken place without the landing of U.S. troops.

Blount recommended restoring the queen, saying...The undoubted sentiment of the people is for the queen, against the provisional government and against annexation."

He noted, "There is not an annexationist in the Islands, so far as I have been able to observe, who would be willing to submit the question of annexation to a popular vote."

Based on Blount's findings, President Cleveland decided that, in the name of justice, he would do everything in his power to reinstate the queen, provided she would grant amnesty to those who had overthrown her government. The idealistic Cleveland, in assuming the provisional government would willingly relinquish power to her at his request, misjudged the character and tenacity of her adversaries.

The new American minister in Hawai'i, Albert Willis, expressed to the queen the president's regret that the unauthorized intervention of the United States had caused her to surrender her sovereignty, and his hope that the wrong done to her and her people might be redressed. Willis told her the president's condition for reinstating her on the throne was that she grant full amnesty.

Lili'uokalani replied that according to Hawaiian law, the punishment for treason was death, but that she would be satisfied with banishing them from the kingdom forever. Later, she agreed to accede to the president's wishes.

Willis next went to Sanford Dole and the provisional government, assuring them of the queen's amnesty. Speaking for President Cleveland, Willis acknowledged the wrong committed by the United States in the revolution and requested them to resign power and restore the queen.

The answer, of course, was no. They repudiated the right of the American president to interfere in their domestic affairs and said that if the American forces illegally assisted the revolution, the provisional government was not responsible.

On Dec. 18, 1893, President Cleveland made an eloquent speech to Congress on the Hawaiian situation.

He had harsh words for the landing of American troops at the revolutionaries' request:

"This military demonstration upon the soil of Honolulu was of itself an act of war; unless made either with the consent of the government of Hawai'i or for the bona fide purpose of protecting the imperiled lives and property of citizens of the United States.

"But there is no pretense of any such consent on the part of the government of the queen ... the existing government, instead of requesting the presence of an armed force, protested against it. There is as little basis for the pretense that forces were landed for the security of American life and property. If so, they would have been stationed in the vicinity of such property and so as to protect it, instead of at a distance and so as to command the Hawaiian Government Building and palace. ... When these armed men were landed, the city of Honolulu was in its customary orderly and peaceful condition."

The president continues:

"But for the notorious predilections of the United States minister for annexation, the Committee of Safety, which should have been called the Committee of Annexation, would never have existed.

"But for the landing of the United States forces upon false pretexts respecting the danger to life and property, the committee would never have exposed themselves to the plans and penalties of treason by undertaking the subversion of the queen's government.

"But for the presence of the United States forces in the immediate vicinity and in position to accord all needed protection and support, the committee would not have proclaimed the provisional government from the steps of the Government Building.

"And, finally, but for the lawless occupation of Honolulu under false pretexts by the United States forces, and but for Minister Stevens' recognition of the provisional government when the United States forces were its sole support and constituted its only military strength, the queen and her government would never have yielded to the provisional government, even for a time and for the sole purpose of submitting her case to the enlightened justice of the United States. ... "

He further stated,

"... if a feeble but friendly state is in danger of being robbed of its independence and its sovereignty by a misuse of the name and power of the United States, the United States cannot fail to vindicate its honor and its sense of justice by an earnest effort to make all possible reparation."

President Cleveland concluded by placing the matter in the hands of Congress.

The Senate hearings were conducted by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, John Tyler Morgan, an annexationist, whose final report managed to find everyone blameless for the revolution except the queen.

Many in the Senate disagreed, and the House censured Stevens and passed a resolution opposing annexation.

In the end, Congress took no action either to restore the monarchy or to annex Hawai'i.

With their goal of annexation stalled, the leaders of the provisional government decided to form a republic, while waiting for a more opportune political climate.

They drafted a constitution and declared it law by proclamation -- the very act for which they had forced Lili'uokalani from her throne.

The new constitution required voters to swear allegiance to the republic, and thousands of Native Hawaiians refused, out of loyalty to queen and country.

Foreigners who had sided with the revolution were allowed to vote.

Property requirements and other qualifications were so strict that relatively few Hawaiians and no Asians could vote.

On July 4, 1894, Sanford Dole announced the inauguration of the Republic of Hawai'i, and declared himself president.

Unwilling to give up, many Hawaiians and other royalists accumulated arms for a counterrevolution to restore the monarchy.

In the January 1895 uprising, led by Robert Wilcox, the royalists were forced by government troops to retreat into the valleys behind Honolulu, and after 10 days of fighting, most of them, including Wilcox, were captured.

The republic's prize catch was Queen Lili'uokalani.

A search revealed a cache of arms buried in the flower garden of her home. She was arrested Jan. 16, 1895, exactly two years from the date the American troops landed in support of the revolution. Imprisoned in a corner room on the second story of 'Iolani Palace, she was guarded day and night, allowed only one attendant and no visitors.

Shortly after she was imprisoned, Lili'uokalani was given a document of abdication to sign and was led to believe that, if she refused, several of her followers were to be shot for treason.

She wrote, "For myself, I would have chosen death rather than to have signed it; but it was represented to me that by my signing this paper all the persons who had been arrested, all my people now in trouble by reason of their love and loyalty toward me, would be immediately released ... the stream of blood ready to flow unless it was stayed by my pen."

Wilcox and four others were sentenced to death, after all.

Many other royalists received long prison sentences and heavy fines.

Lili'uokalani noted, "Their sentences were passed the same as though my signature had not been obtained. That they were not executed is due solely to a consideration which has been officially stated: 'Word came from the United States that the execution of captive rebels would militate against annexation.'"

The queen was charged with misprision of treason -- having knowledge of treason and failing to report it--and was tried by a military commission. Her trial was held in the former throne room of the palace, where she had once greeted sovereigns and dignitaries from around the world.

The prosecutors taunted, insulted and tried to humiliate her, but they never succeeded in destroying her dignity.

Found guilty, she was given the maximum sentence of five years imprisonment at hard labor and a \$5,000 fine.

It was not carried out, but she remained a prisoner in the palace.

On New Year's Day 1896, all the royalist prisoners were freed -- except Lili'uokalani.

After eight months of imprisonment in the palace, she was allowed to return to her home, under house arrest. Not until late 1896 was her freedom restored.

She went to Washington, armed with documents signed by many Hawaiians asking President Cleveland to reinstate their queen. The president welcomed her warmly and she expressed her gratitude for his earlier efforts to restore her kingdom's independence.

But it was now too late for him to be of further help.

The Plucking Is Consummated

His successor, William McKinley, sent the annexation treaty to the Senate.

Hawaiians submitted a petition to Congress with 29,000 signatures opposing annexation, and petitions to the Republic of Hawai'i, asking that annexation be put to a public vote. They were never permitted to vote on the issue.

Adding to the pro-annexation argument was the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898, drawing attention to the Islands' strategic position in the Pacific.

Ultimately, the annexationists won, and Grover Cleveland wrote: "I am ashamed of the whole affair."

Sovereignty of Hawai'i was formally transferred to the United States at ceremonies at 'Iolani Palace on Aug. 12, 1898.

Sanford Dole spoke as the newly appointed governor of the Territory of Hawai'i.

The Hawaiian anthem, "Hawai'i Pono 'I" -- with words written by King Kalakaua -- was played at the Hawaiian flag was lowered, and replaced by the American flag and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The Hawaiian people had lost their land, their monarchy and now their independence.

Another loss came the following year, with the death of the beautiful young Princess. Ka'iulani, heir to the Hawaiian throne, at age 23.

Lili'uokalani remained an indomitable spirit, honored and revered by her people as a queen to the end.

She died in 1917, at the age of 79, still waiting for justice.

Last year, for the observance of the centennial of the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, 'Iolani Palace, draped in the black of mourning, was a powerful symbol.

The Hawaiian people are still seeking justice through legal means reparations, a fulfillment of trust commitments, settlement of land claims and the return of lands.

They are, moreover, seeking recognition of Hawaiian sovereignty.

The Native Hawaiians will decide how they choose to structure sovereignty -- as a nation-within-a-nation, complete independence, or some other model. It is no longer a distant dream, but an attainable goal.

January 18, 2003: 500,000 March Peacefully Against Invading Iraq [Then, As Now, The Imperial Government Doesn't Really Give A Shit]



Anti-war protesters march past the U.S. Capitol during the start of an anti-war protest that will culminate by a march to the Washington Naval Yard.

**Of The RCD (The Party Of The
Fallen Dictator)”**
**“All Parties That Were Illegal
Under The Old Regimes Are Being
Excluded”**
**“The Americans And The French
Have Certainly Played A Role In
Convincing Parts Of The Mild
Opposition To Support This
Government”**
**“The People Started Protesting Against
This Government Today”**

It is in my opinion the Americans and the French that have certainly played a role in convincing parts of the mild opposition to support this government in order to guarantee continuation of the old economic structure and its integration as a service economy for France, plus the political and military alliance with the U.S. and NATO.

January 17th, 2011 Abou Jahjah comments تعليقات أبو جهجه, the official Blog of Dyab Abou Jahjah

Tunisian Update 3

The struggle for legitimacy In Tunisia, a new government is being formed under the leadership of the RCD (the party of the fallen dictator) and the participation of some legalized opposition parties.

All parties that were illegal under the old regimes are being excluded and this is steering up a lot of controversy among parts of the Tunisian population who feel that the Revolution is being driven away from its ideals.

The main view of the opposition is that the people who made the revolution are not represented and that by keeping the RCD on board and even on the steering wheel the former regime is perpetuating itself.

On the other hand the pro coalition voices are stressing the fact that this is only a transition necessary to avoid plunging the country in chaos while some would argue that now that the revolution deposed the tyrant the country must seek reconciliation, and they also argue that the RCD has hundreds of thousands of members and excluding them would exclude important segments of society.

However, most of these members were in the RCD not for an Ideology or a vision, but because a party card was synonymous of personal advancement under the old regime.

I wonder if the RCD will have more than few thousands hard core Benali loyalists if things are left to take their natural course.

But even if the RCD would be a real party with real supporters base, it is now the duty of these people - if they want national reconciliation- to distance themselves from the past and its crimes by changing their parties name and going to the opposition.

Why should national reconciliation be the responsibility of the oppressed? many rightly ask.

And they also believe that the best strategy to use now is a transitional committee representing all currents of the people and its trade unions and excluding the RCD as such while including some independents who are not far from it and that this committee should lead the country into transition towards a free and fair election where all the chances of all the parties are equal.

It is in my opinion the Americans and the French that have certainly played a role in convincing parts of the mild opposition to support this government in order to guarantee continuation of the old economic structure and its integration as a service economy for France, plus the political and military alliance with the U.S. and NATO.

The risk is that this government will not be so transitory after all and will only serve as an excuse to win more time and allow intelligent services and regime loyalists to work on their strategy to take back control of the country, albeit under another leader that will govern slightly different than Benali but will be just as autocratic and corrupt and pro-western.

This is a real risk and the people started protesting against this government today and in Tunis the governmental police used tear gas against the demonstrators.

on a side note: 6 Algerians, 1 Egyptian and a Mauritanian burned themselves in clear attempts to emulate the igniting act of the Tunisian revolution.

MORE FROM DYAB ABOU JAHJAH:

Update Tunisia 1.16:

**“All Arab Dictators Are Shaking
On Their Thrones”**

**“The Tunisian People Organized
Itself In Committees That Spread All
Across The Country In Every
Neighborhood And In Every City And
Starting Patrolling The Streets And
Protecting The People”**

**“On The Political Level The Left Over Of
The Old Regime Are Still Officially In
Power And They Are Negotiating With
The Fake Opposition That Always Served
As Decoration For The Regime”**

January 16th, 2011 Abou Jahjah comments تعليقات أبو جهجه, the official Blog of Dyab Abou Jahjah

Update Tunisia II

The Tunisian revolution continues to dictate its own logic on all levels....

After attempts by regime leftovers to spread chaos by several techniques (cars driving through the streets shooting at people and houses Randomly, destroying infrastructure , etc.....) the Tunisian people organized itself in committees that spread all across the country in every neighborhood and in every city and starting patrolling the streets and protecting the people.

Popular committees even chased the militias of the old regime and in one case in a shoot out on martyr fell and two militiamen were executed by the people.

there are reports of Israeli activity in Tunisia in support of the counter revolutionary, also of infiltrators sent in from Libya to sabotage. It is not clear yet if this is a pattern or independent isolated cases.

On the political level the left over of the old regime are still officially in power and they are negotiating with the fake opposition that always served as decoration for the regime.

However, the popular committees and the trade Union and the real opposition are all working on changing this and translating the revolution into political effects.

I believe it will not take long before a political road map will be drawn towards preparing elections.

It is important to note that elections according the old regime will not bring about change, so the real opposition and the people are demanding changing the constitution first and then going towards election.

The Arab regimes are shaking and the Arab people are euphoric even in places like Oman and the Emirates.

On twitter, the Saudi youth is also showing support to the Tunisian revolution and expressing shame for their country receiving the tyrant.

The Egyptian regime is delaying measures that were planned to lift state support of some basic goods, and Qadafi expressed his regret and said the Tunisian should have kept Benali for life.

Qadafi is clearly nervous about a real revolution on Libyan border unlike his own phony one.

On another level, The Egyptian opposition is now more convinced that the answer is the street and nothing else.

This revival of the revolutionary ideal is universal all over the Arab world.

In Algeria there are reports of three cases of citizens setting themselves on fire, one of them is reportedly dead. Egypt and Algeria are looking to be the two Arab countries with the most resonance of what happened in Tunisia. Hezbollah saluted the Tunisian revolution and asked all Arab leaders to draw conclusions from it.

Internationally, the French and the Americans issued statements that reveal a high level of hypocrisy. They always supported the old regime knowing very well of its nature as wiki-leaks revealed and now they cannot sell us their so called support to the people's choices.

They do not like to see revolutions unless if they are orchestrated by the CIA and the CIA financed NGO's like in Ukraine, Georgia and Lebanon.

This is a real revolution and therefore they feel unsettled about it.

MORE:

“The Tunisian Ruling Class, However, Is Still In Power” “It Is Weakened, Afraid, Hesitant. But It Is In Power”

January 16, 2011 Leninology.blogspot.com [Excerpt]

The social base beneath the Ben Ali regime had shattered, leaving him with only his security personnel and the super rich to support him.

Probably, at that point, the ruling class pulled the plug, and Ben Ali escaped.

Now Jordanians and Algerians have joined the fight, motivated by many of the same issues. Palestinians are expressing hope and praise over this rebellion, as well they might. The forces of their oppression have been shaken, their regional allies emboldened.

It can't be long before Mubarak has to face down another surging rebellion.

The Tunisian ruling class, however, is still in power. It is weakened, afraid, hesitant. But it is in power.

US imperialism and its Zionist client retain the capacity to act, as does Saudi Arabia, one of the vanguards of reaction in the region.

Ben Ali's internal security apparatus is unlikely to have disintegrated (looks like they're fighting with the army on his behalf even now), and it seems likely that he was forced out not only by elements of the state bureaucracy, but also by international players with an interest in Tunisia's development.

Still, the protests continue, and the 'acting president' probably won't be acting for long.

The revolution has an organised core of trade unionists and left-wing activists, not to mention some of the Islamists who have arrived late on the scene, but it has not yet convoked a new political leadership.

What it has done, potentially, is begin the process that will clear out the repressive apparatus, opening the way for the emergence of the kinds of mass movements that can overthrow not just America's row of dictators, but also the system which they uphold.

Payback In Tunisia:

Tunisians Gleefully Ransacked “Vast Beachfront Mansions” Of The Formerly Powerful: Wealth Of Ruling Family Targeted



Tunisians took furniture from a home belonging to a relative of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in Hammamet, Tunisia, on Thursday. Holly Pickett for The New York Times



Angry Tunisians on Thursday damaged a home in Hammamet, Tunisia, owned by a member of President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali's family. Holly Pickett for The New York Times

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

January 13, 2011 By DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK, The New York Times [Excerpts]

HAMMAMET, Tunisia — This ancient Mediterranean hamlet, advertised as the Tunisian St.-Tropez, has long been the favorite summer getaway of President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali and his large extended family, many of whom have built vast beachfront mansions here with the wealth they have amassed during his years in power.

But their new and conspicuous riches, partly exposed in a detailed cable by the American ambassador and made public by WikiLeaks, have fueled an extraordinary extended uprising by Tunisians who blame corruption among the elite for the joblessness afflicting their country.

And on Thursday, idyllic Hammamet became the latest casualty of that rage, as hundreds of protesters swarmed the streets, the police fled and Tunisians gleefully ransacked the mansion of a presidential relative, liberating a horse from its stable and setting aflame a pair of all-terrain vehicles.

Several demonstrators in Hammamet said it was not the country's economic problems but the corruption of the first family that they were truly protesting. Tunisians storming the presidential family mansion in Hammamet gleefully filmed one another with cameras and other devices for circulation around the country, where such images have also helped goad the protesters.

Most of those storming the mansion described it as belonging to a member of the Trabelsi family, but a neighbor said it belonged to the president's uncle, Sofiane Ben Ali.

After breaking down the gate to the empty house, rioters pulled out two all-terrain vehicles and set them on fire.

A horse kept by the family ran free in the mansion's yard, and young men on motorcycles did wheelies around rows of towering palm trees on the well-manicured lawn. (Two said the yard had previously been a public soccer field.)

The crew of a Tunisian Coast Guard boat watched from the sea.

Two of the protestors said that fearful police officers had directed them away from their station and toward the mansion.

"They said, 'Please, you go to the Trabelsis,' and it is logical," said Cheadi Mahamed, a 32-year-old protester with a job at the airport.

Like others in the crowd, he said he felt emboldened to speak publicly without fear of reprisals. "Now, we can say we what we want," he said. "It has started to change."

As evening approached, trucks of police reinforcements arrived.

But they stood as looting began a shoe store, a toy store and a hotel serving the wealthy.

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

RECEIVED:

Request For Information About Tunisia

To: NOLA_C3_Discussion@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Interesting points on Tunisia
Date: Jan 17, 2011

These are good reports [Military Resistance 9A9: Tunisia] but if the current govt stays in power minus the former dictator, there will be only minor concessions and things will not change fundamentally.

So far, there does not appear to be any revolutionary Party of significance which means that a military takeover is possible.

If that happens then some reforms will occur but the country will still remained tied to world capitalism and be dominated by capitalist politics. If any anti-capitalist parties are having any significant role, I would like to hear about it.

Les Evenchick
New Orleans

REPLY: If anyone has this information, please send in and it will be forwarded to Les Evenchick. T

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/)

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



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

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