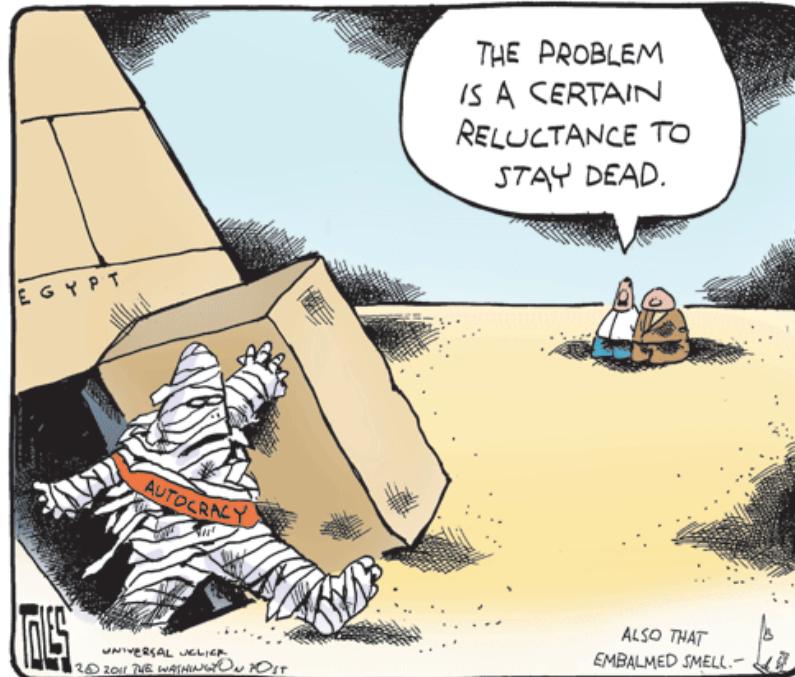


Military Resistance 9B13

“Egypt’s Generals To Ban Unions, Strikes” – Reuters



[From Below] “Another Soldier Wept” “Mom, I Want To Celebrate With The People”

FEBRUARY 12, 2011 By TAMER EL-GHOBASHY, SAM DAGHER and CHRISTOPHER RHOADS, Wall St. Journal [Excerpt]

Around Cairo, people hugged and kissed the soldiers who had come into the street two weeks earlier and allowed the demonstrations that the police had tried to suppress.

The soldiers, who will have to shepherd any transition to democracy, were swept up as well. “Congratulations sir,” one soldier told an old man. “God willing, we’ll have an Egypt that will make you proud.”

Another soldier wept on his cell phone away from the crowds: “Mom, I want to celebrate with the people.”

MORE:

[From Above] Egypt's Generals Declare Class War: Order Ban On Union Meetings “Effectively Forbidding Strikes” “And Tell All Egyptians To Get Back To Work”

February 13, 2011 by Marwa Awad and Alistair Lyon, Reuters

CAIRO - Egypt's new military rulers will issue a warning on Monday against anyone who creates “chaos and disorder”, an army source said.

The Higher Military Council will also ban meetings by labor unions or professional syndicates, effectively forbidding strikes, and tell all Egyptians to get back to work after the unrest that toppled Hosni Mubarak.

Workers from the health and culture ministries staged demonstrations as Egyptians began venting pent-up frustrations.

Thousands of workers have staged strikes, sit-ins and protests over pay and conditions at firms and government agencies in fields such as steel, textiles, telecoms, railways, post offices, banks and oil and pharmaceutical companies.

Egypt declared Monday a bank holiday after workers disrupted operations at the country's main state banks.

Protest organizers were forming a Council of Trustees to defend the revolution and urge swift reform from a military intent on restoring law and order during the transition.

Protesters have demanded the release of political prisoners, the lifting of a state of emergency, the abolition of military courts, fair elections and a swift handover to civilian rule.

The army has said it would lift emergency law, used to stifle dissent under Mubarak, when “current circumstances end”.

But it has not specified a timetable.

Despite Mubarak's resignation, some protesters have said they plan to stay in Tahrir Square to ensure the military keeps its promises on transition.

They have urged Egyptians to turn out in their millions for a "victory march" on Friday.

On Saturday, the army said it would uphold Egypt's international obligations. These include a peace treaty with Israel, whose defence minister has been in touch with his Egyptian counterpart, who heads the military council.

MORE:

Egypt: The Clock Is Running

[IN CASE YOU MISSED IT THE FIRST TIME]
[Comment: T]

The Egyptian February revolution has brought down the dictator.

The Egyptian people, long oppressed, have won a world-amazing political victory, and opened the way to wonderful possibilities.

But as yet there are only possibilities.

The material reality of the lives of the overwhelming majority of Egyptians who daily struggle to get enough to eat has not changed with the going of Mubarak.

One particularly murderous exploiter and a handful of his class allies have given up power, but the rest remain in their previous places, taking for themselves the wealth of Egyptian society.

They sacrifice a few of their associates to the revolution in a play for time to regroup and reorganize their forces.

The question opened now is which class will rule in Egypt, and that question will be decided in class warfare.

Preparation for a showdown in that war is beginning, hopefully on both sides.

Certainly those who consider the wealth of the society their private property are already preparing to insure their continued domination by armed force. This includes the members of the military general staff.

They are not all stupid, and some understand that if this revolution isn't put down, as soon as practicable, they risk losing everything.

The soldiers will decide the outcome.

The soldiers' choice will be whether to follow the orders of the generals, who will be defending their own personal wealth and privilege as well as that of their class allies, or to choose to defy their generals and go over to the Egyptian working class, and their allies.

Winning the soldiers from below requires careful organization within their ranks.

This is not work that can be postponed.

This work is best organized now, before an offensive against the Egyptian revolution is set in motion by its enemies.

MORE

Sunday Morning In Egypt: “The Emergency Laws And Curfew Still In Force”

From: June VI

To: Military Resistance

Subject: Egypt

Date: Feb 13, 2011

Sunday morning: OK. military is just “cleaning up” Liberation Square, and opening it to traffic. Soldiers carrying away tents.

Resistance of people, now sitting around, reading newspapers.

Their general attitude was not to trust the army, cold comfort. Ironically enough, security police now demonstrating somewhere or other for higher wages.

But to all of this, armed resistance would not have been possible.

So where next?

Logistically, where can people meet?

The emergency laws and curfew still in force.

MORE:

Of Course The Egyptian Generals Hate Unions: These Corporate Profiteers In Uniform “Own Companies That

Sell Everything From Fire Extinguishers And Medical Equipment To Laptops, Televisions, Sewing Machines, Refrigerators, Pots And Pans, Butane Gas Bottles, Bottled Water And Olive Oil”

“Holdings Include Vast Tracts Of Land, Including The Sharm El-Sheikh Resort, Where Ex-President Hosni Mubarak Now Resides In One Of His Seaside Palaces”

“Reporting On The Military Is A Crime In Egypt”

[Thanks to Felicity Arbuthnot, who sent this in. She writes “They could pull the plug from ability to cook, to bread, to olive oil if it goes pear shaped”]

February 13, 2011 Andrew S. Ross, San Francisco Chronicle [Excerpts]

It owns companies that sell everything from fire extinguishers and medical equipment to laptops, televisions, sewing machines, refrigerators, pots and pans, butane gas bottles, bottled water and olive oil.

Its holdings include vast tracts of land, including the Sharm el-Sheikh resort, where ex-President Hosni Mubarak now resides in one of his seaside palaces. Bread from its bakeries has helped head off food riots.

“It’s a business conglomerate, like General Electric,” said Robert Springborg, professor of national security affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, referring to the Egyptian military.

“It’s represented in virtually every sector of the economy.”

So is what's good for Egypt's GE good for the country, now that the military is, at least temporarily, in formal control?

In a September 2008 classified cable recently released by WikiLeaks, U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Margaret Scobey wrote, "We see the military's role in the economy as a force that generally stifles free market reform by increasing direct government involvement in the markets."

The cable noted "the military's strong influence in Egypt's economy," with military-owned companies, often run by retired generals, "particularly active in the water, olive oil, cement, construction, hotel and gasoline industries."

Springborg, who has written widely on Egypt and met with the nation's military, doubts the military's increased responsibilities will change that position.

"It's been steadfastly opposed to liberalization and got rid of everybody in Mubarak's government who supported it," he said.

Reporting on the military is a crime in Egypt, and estimates of its share of the Egyptian economy - ranging from 5 to 40 percent - are "absolute guesswork," Springborg said. "No one has the books on their companies."

Egypt's Ministry of Military Production, which has its hand in numerous business pursuits, including building water treatment stations, has 40,000 civilians on the payroll and takes in approximately \$345 million a year, according to its head, former Gen. Sayed Meshal.

A reporter for the online publication Slate who interviewed Meshal last year described the ministry's "lavish headquarters," with "golden handrails" and "fancy custom-made drink coasters - the place is awash with cash."

In the interview, Meshal "gleefully" told the reporter that Egypt's well-known bottled water, Safi, produced by a military factory formerly run by Meshal, was named after his daughter.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Jobless Iraqi Dies After Setting Himself On Fire

13 February 2011 (AFP)

BAGHDAD - A jobless 30-year-old man in northern Iraq set himself on fire on Sunday in protest at his plight and later died of his injuries, a hospital source said.

“A 30-year-old jobless man with four children set himself on fire and died,” said the source at the General Hospital in the northern city of Mosul.

He said the man had committed suicide near the city’s Tahrir (“Liberation”) Square, which shares the same name as the Cairo epicentre of the popular uprising that toppled Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak on Friday.

According to figures from the United Nations, unemployment in Mosul is running at 17 percent.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Funeral Arrangements Set For WNY Marine Killed In Action



Marine Lance Cpl. Aaron Swanson

Feb 13, 2011 WGRZ

BUFFALO, NY - Funeral arrangements are now set for a WNY Marine killed in the action in Afghanistan.

The Department of Defense announced last Tuesday the death of Lance Cpl. Aaron Swanson, 21 of Jamestown.

The Marine died on Monday while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, located in the south central part of the country.

His parents told the Jamestown Post-Journal their son's tour of duty was scheduled to end in just a few short weeks.

Marine Lance Cpl. Swanson was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces Reserve in Buffalo. He was a 2007 graduate of Southwestern Central High School in Jamestown.

A wake will be held Sunday, February 13, 2011 from 6pm-9pm at the Lind Funeral Home, 805 West Third Street in Jamestown. It will be open to the public. Funeral services for Lance Cpl. Swanson will be held Monday, February 14 at Christ First United Methodist Church, 663 Lakeview Avenue in Jamestown.

In the interview with the Post Journal earlier this week, Swanson's mother said her son was an all-around fun loving kid who grew to have a deep appreciation for the country and a devotion to serve. Julie Swanson said her son had been an active member of the Allegheny Highlands Council Troop 131 of the Boy Scouts and returned as a young adult to speak to newer scouts, which included his brother.

She said she last spoke to her son on January 14th when he checked in for his brother's birthday.

Lance Cpl. Swanson's personal awards and decorations include the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal and the NATO Medal - International Security Assistance Force Afghanistan.

Lance Cpl. Swanson joined the Marine Corps on May 18, 2009, and was promoted to his current rank on Dec. 1, 2010.

Governor Andrew Cuomo has ordered all state flags to be flown at half-staff in Swanson's honor on Thursday, February 10th.

"On behalf of all New Yorkers, I extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family, friends and fellow Marines of Lance Corporal Swanson", said Governor Cuomo. "This young Marine gave his life for our nation and we will honor and remember his service."

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

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

**“We Have Six-Man Police Posts
Out There In Bad Areas That**

Never Get Attacked, And Almost Every Time We Go There We Get Attacked,' Colonel Fivecoat Said”

Taliban Warriors “Are Aided By Villagers, Who Signal For Them And Provide Them Shelter”

“They Have A Support Network, The Officers Said, Of At Least 4,000 Civilians”

“An Underground Government By Local Fighters, Organized Under The Taliban’s Banner, Have A Civilian Administration”



Many of the photographs captured by the battalion show unnamed fighters posing proudly, like these two men, one with a decorated AK rifle and the other with a decorated PKM machine gun. C. J. CHIVERS



Two fighters with rifles originally issued to the Afghan security forces. These rifles, purchased by the Pentagon, were a common sight in the trove of Ghazni Taliban photographs. C. J. CHIVERS

An American sweep of the village of Bashi turned up a detailed terrain model of Forward Operating Base Andar, where the American battalion's headquarters are located. The model, officers said, was accurate — indicating that the Taliban had informants on the base.

The supporters provide food, shelter and part-time help, like passing false information to the Americans and signaling the movements of the battalion's patrols with mirrors or thick plumes of smoke.

February 6, 2011 By C. J. CHIVERS, The New York Times [Excerpts]

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ANDAR, Afghanistan — Midway through December, Afghan police officers arrested a man who had hidden a fake bomb near a government office in Miri, a village in eastern Afghanistan.

The man, who gave the name Muhammad Mir, confessed, saying he wanted to gauge the security force's reactions to a Taliban attack, according to American intelligence officials.

A paper found in his pocket, though, proved more significant than evidence of the Taliban's reconnaissance.

It was handwritten in Pashto, and when translated here, it revealed a tax-collection ledger of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan — the resurgent Taliban.

Muhammad Alnabi, it showed, had paid the Taliban 1,600 afghanis, or about \$37.

Sergeant Akbar had paid 700 afghanis, and Abdulla Kaka had remitted 6,500, funds for a so-called shadow government to carry on its fight.

The scrap in Mr. Mir's pocket, hinting at both boldness and organization, became one part of a gradually expanding portrait of how the Taliban has organized and fought its guerrilla war in a corner of rural Afghanistan.

The picture is of an underground government by local fighters, organized under the Taliban's banner, who have established the rudiments of a civilian administration to complement their shadowy combat force.

They run schools, collect taxes and adjudicate civil disputes in Islamic courts.

And when they fight, their gunmen and bomb makers are aided by an intelligence and support network that includes villagers, who signal for them and provide them shelter, and tunnels in which to elude capture or find medical care.

The fighters harass Afghan and American forces and pursue a campaign of intimidation against residents who cooperate with, or even acknowledge, the central government.

Dressing as civilians, they battle Western forces with a familiar script: using small ambushes and makeshift bombs with minimal risk and conducting the occasional rocket or mortar attack.

They also have a support network, the officers said, of at least 4,000 civilians.

The supporters provide food, shelter and part-time help, like passing false information to the Americans and signaling the movements of the battalion's patrols with mirrors or thick plumes of smoke.

Local knowledge has often given the fighters the ability to seemingly disappear, slipping away in canals or village alleys.

On Jan. 20, a squad from C Company was watching escape routes from the village of Maumud, where other soldiers and police officers were searching for weapons.

A check of the entrance to a karez, the traditional underground aqueduct system of the high Afghan steppe, led to the discovery of a Taliban battlefield-aid station deep underground.

Inside the aqueduct's main tunnel, which continued for several hundred yards, the soldiers found soiled sheets, bloodied bandages and intravenous lines, syringes and penicillin — signs that wounded fighters had recently been treated there.

Unlike in some areas of Afghanistan, the task force officers said, the Taliban fighters of eastern Ghazni appear to be entirely local men.

Surveillance of how the dead Taliban fighters are treated has consistently pointed to local roots.

“We haven’t seen foreign fighters,” Colonel Fivecoat said. “We know that because we’ve killed fighters and followed it through to the funerals. They are all being buried in local villages by their elders.”

But external influences are evident in the fighters’ command and control. The vast majority of insurgents in Andar and Deh Yak, the officers said, answer to the Quetta Shura — the organization, led by Mullah Muhammad Omar, that formerly governed Afghanistan.

The intelligence officials also said that there was a small presence in easternmost Ghazni Province of fighters loyal to the Haqqani network, the internationally designated terrorist organization, based in Miramshah, Pakistan, that is aligned with the Taliban.

Some improvised bombs bear signs of being assembled by Haqqanis, or by people who have been trained or supplied by them, Lieutenant Marietta said.

With its local origins and connections, the Ghazni Taliban have been able to intimidate the government and exert influence over the population.

Several American officers said Taliban fighters were largely untroubled by the two districts’ small contingent of Afghan police officers, with whom, in some cases, they have brokered under-the-table arrangements.

When the battalion arrived in Deh Yak, it discovered that a police post overlooking the village of Salamanzi had been sold in July by its commander to the Taliban, which had looted it of ammunition, including rocket-propelled grenades.

The outpost has since been re-established as a government position. But suspicions linger.

“We have six-man police posts out there in bad areas that never get attacked, and almost every time we go there we get attacked,” Colonel Fivecoat said. “So something is going on.”

Similarly, last fall, when the Taliban ordered residents not to vote in the parliamentary elections, the officers said, the order had its intended effect.

“There are 110,000 people in Andar,” said Sgt. First Class Jason S. Werts, the battalion’s senior intelligence sergeant. “Three people voted.”

The organization’s intelligence network has also been effective.

An American sweep of the village of Bashi turned up a detailed terrain model of Forward Operating Base Andar, where the American battalion’s headquarters are located. The model, officers said, was accurate — indicating that the Taliban had informants on the base.

Another sign of the intelligence network’s effects emerged in remarks of Afghan police officers working at the re-established outpost in Salamanzi.

In interviews, three police officers said that though they lived near the post, they were afraid to go home.

‘The Taliban have spies everywhere,’ said one of the officers, Abdul Wasay.

The same spy network has identified local civilians who have helped American and Afghan troops.

“The guy we had who was willing to give us information about the Taliban is the guy we found dead last week,” said Capt. Edward T. Peskie, who commands one of the battalion’s companies.

That informant, Abdul Hamid, had been stopped on a dirt road, taken from his vehicle, and shot.

An American patrol to the nearby village of Janabad produced no information. Several villagers acted as if they had not heard of the man.

The Taliban’s use of hit-and-run tactics has often made it difficult for soldiers to see their foes clearly. But late in December, in the village of Alu Khel, a platoon found dozens of Taliban photographs while searching a compound.

The photos revealed the faces of the fighters, most of them young men. They also included images of small boys, some of whom appeared to be 5 or younger, brandishing assault rifles, rocket-propelled grenade launchers or tactical radios.

These photos included signs of the Taliban’s logistical sources.

Several images, for example, showed fighters with the distinctive rifle of the Afghan police — the AMD-65.

NATO began issuing AMD-65s to Afghan police officers in 2006. Their presence in Taliban hands suggests that weapons purchased by the United States had escaped government custody.

Similarly, an examination by The New York Times of 15 captured Taliban rifle magazines found they contained ammunition identical to that purchased by the Pentagon for issue to the Afghan police — another sign of leakage.

The Taliban’s success at obtaining ammunition and weapons has not always been matched with an ability to use them well. At times, the vaunted movement has appeared to be bungling. “They sometimes are not good at the basics,” Sergeant Werts said.

In nearly 200 small-arms attacks against the Americans in recent months, the insurgents’ bullets have struck only six American soldiers, one fatally, according to the battalion’s medical data.

Early last fall, to cite another example, the Taliban fired four 82-millimeter mortar rounds at Forward Operating Base Andar.

All four landed within the perimeter walls, including one that crashed through the roof of a tent crowded with American soldiers. But none exploded. Whoever fired them, the soldiers said, forgot to insert their fuses.

The Taliban's hidden bombs have also included several duds.

The officers said they took small comfort in signs of the Taliban's marginal weapons skills. Both sides have spent months assessing each other.

When spring arrives, the officers said, the Taliban in Ghazni will continue the work of their shadow government, including collecting taxes.

But the fighters, they said, could follow patterns seen elsewhere when American forces have settled in, and shift toward more improvised bombs.



Most of the captured images were simple, unedited photographs. But a few, like this one, had been decorated. These fighters pose with typical Taliban equipment — a rocket-propelled grenade, a captured police rifle and a motorcycle, which is a common means for the Taliban to move about the Afghan battlefield. Slain Taliban fighters are

sometimes memorialized in this way, but the identities of these men are not known. C.
J. CHIVERS

**IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE
END THE OCCUPATIONS**

MILITARY NEWS

**“All They Wanted To Look At Was
Body Parts”**

**Widow Of Bomb Hero Olaf Schmid
Accuses Army Of Inquest Cover-Up:
“I Should Have Learned By Now That
The MoD Is Nothing More Than An
Institution Which Covers Its Back And
Does What's Easiest’**



The widow: Christina Schmid, 35, said she felt 'betrayed' by the Ministry of Defence

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

13th February 2011 By Polly Dunbar, Daily Mail [Excerpts]

The widow of bomb disposal hero Olaf Schmid has criticised the inquest into his death and accused Army chiefs of covering up the 'true reasons' he died.

The coroner stated there was 'nothing in the operation which fell below what might have been expected and that could have contributed to his death'.

But Mrs Schmid said: 'The inquest was futile and rushed. They didn't seem to want to look into the true reasons for his death. All they wanted to talk about was what happened to his body parts when I have always been more concerned about what was happening in his brain leading up to that point.'

She added that a fainting fit the staff sergeant had before his death was caused by exhaustion.

Mrs Schmid said: 'I feel betrayed – but I should have learned by now that the MoD is nothing more than an institution which covers its back and does what's easiest.'

Sources claimed last night that the MoD had lost the medical records of Staff Sergeant Schmid, who was known to his family and colleagues as Oz.

They say the missing records would have shown that he was suffering medical issues in the lead-up to his death which could have impacted on his ability to do his job.

Staff Sgt Schmid was trying to disarm improvised explosive devices (IEDs) when he was killed the day before he was due to return home for a break.

He won a posthumous George Cross for gallantry.

At the inquest in Truro, Cornwall, several of his colleagues gave statements saying he had appeared 'unsettled and impatient' after his five-year-old stepson told him in a phone call the night before: 'Daddy, it's time to come home.'

But according to sources who knew him, his agitation could also have been the result of the severe digestive complaints he experienced during his five months in Helmand, which were not raised at the inquest.

One source said: 'It was widely known that Oz suffered from chronic irritable bowel syndrome and colitis.

'All the boys would joke about it but he was in a lot of discomfort and had to use the toilet up to 15 times a day. He received treatment for his problems during the tour but no evidence exists of this because the MoD have said that they cannot find his medical records.'

Mrs Schmid has previously spoken of the stress her husband was under after working for 129 days without a break.

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

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

-- V. I. Lenin; What Is To Be Done

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

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

-- David Cortright; Soldiers In Revolt

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

Egypt Smiles

From: Felicity Arbuthnot
To: Military Resistance
Subject: Egypt smiles
Date: Feb 13, 2011 2:56 AM & 4:44 AM

My Egyptian friend Heba just wrote: “Dear tourists, sorry for the temporary shutdown. Egypt was under necessary maintenance. We are happy to welcome you back to a much better Egypt now. You will be impressed.”

“Obama called him a ‘peacemaker’, Blair called him a ‘force for good’, Egypt called him a taxi.”

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**“Iran’s Government Has Taken
Extraordinary Measures To
Suppress Dissent”
Regimes’ Bloody Tyrants Threaten
Mass Murder Of Citizens Resisting
Their Tyranny:
“It Has Executed One Person Every
Nine Hours Since Jan. 1, Breaking
The Per Capita World Record”**

“Revolutionary Guard Commander Hossein Hamedani Said On Tuesday That The Opposition Supporters Were ‘Nothing But Dead Corpses’”

Others, mostly student activists and youth, say the execution reports are making them more resolved to fight for more political freedom.

“Yes we are all afraid of violence but we are no less than the Egyptians; if they can do it so can we,” said a 32-year-old marketing consultant.

FEBRUARY 12, 2011 By FARNAZ FASSIHI, Wall St. Journal [Excerpts]

The Iranian state commemorated the 32nd anniversary of its Islamic Revolution on Friday with victory parades, as it tried to squelch counter demonstrations planned across the country for Monday.

Iran’s pro-democracy Green Movement has called people to the streets in solidarity with protesters in Egypt and Tunisia, as the call gained momentum on blogs and social networking sites, with over 36,000 people pledging to participate on one protest group’s Facebook page.

Iranian youth activists got a nod from Wael Ghonim, the Google executive and Egyptian protest leader, who showed up on Tahrir Square wearing the signature green wrist band of Iran’s opposition.

“I tell all Iranians that you should learn from Egyptians because we learned from you,” Mr. Ghonim told an Iranian human-rights group on Thursday. His comments and picture were widely posted on opposition websites and blogs.

In Tehran and other big Iranian cities this week residents scribbled on paper money, “End executions, stop dictatorship,” and spray painted “Tahrir Square”—the central location of recent Egyptian protests—on traffic signs on Tehran’s Azadi Square, the site of Iran’s antigovernment protests in 2009.

“We called for a demonstration to show our movement is alive and to stop the Iranian government’s propaganda abuse of pro-democracy movements in the region,” said opposition leader Mehdi Karroubi through an intermediary.

Mr. Karroubi has been under house arrest in Tehran since Thursday, according to his website.

At least six relatives and advisors to Mr. Karroubi and opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi have been arrested in the past day, their offices said.

Iran's leadership has said in recent weeks that the 1979 Islamic Revolution has inspired the popular uprisings in the region.

Several Egyptian and Tunisian opposition parties have publicly rejected that notion.

The government has already begun pre-emptive measures to stop Monday's planned demonstration by deploying larger-than-normal numbers of security forces around Tehran.

Revolutionary Guard commander Hossein Hamedani said on Tuesday that the opposition supporters were "nothing but dead corpses," according to the official news agency IRNA.

Since uprisings swept across the Middle East last month, Iran's government has taken extraordinary measures to suppress dissent.

It has executed one person every nine hours since Jan. 1, breaking the per capita world record, human-rights groups say. In January alone, Iran executed 87 people, the state media reported.

Analysts say the judicial process has been hasty and at least three victims were political prisoners arrested during the 2009 antigovernment protests.

"The executions are a political message to the population: 'don't even think about unrest, we are in control and this is your punishment,' " said Hadi Ghaemi, the director of International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran, an independent organization based in New York.

The executions have caused many middle-class families to retreat from political activism.

Others, mostly student activists and youth, say the execution reports are making them more resolved to fight for more political freedom.

"Yes we are all afraid of violence but we are no less than the Egyptians; if they can do it so can we," said a 32-year-old marketing consultant.

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 Resistance Available In PDF Format
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email contact@militaryproject.org

CLASS WAR REPORTS



**A Million Protesters Took To The Streets Across Italy On Sunday Calling On Scandal Hit Silvio Berlusconi To Resign:
“After Mubarak, Silvio Berlusconi”
“We Have Come To Reestablish, Through Our Efforts And Sacrifice, The Democracy That We Have Lost”**



Protesters, many of them women, took to the streets across Italy on Sunday calling on scandal hit Silvio Berlusconi to resign. Photo: REUTERS

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

13 Feb 2011 By Nick Pisa in Rome, Telegraph.co.uk & Sify Technologies Ltd

Marches were held in 200 towns and cities throughout the country as Italians voiced their anger and frustration at the 74-year-old Italian prime minister, who is facing charges of having under age sex with a prostitute and abuse of power.

“We have come out onto the streets to defend our beloved constitution which defends us from abuse of power and makes us all equal before the law,” the Telegraph quoted Gianfranco Mascia, one of the coordinators, as saying.

“We have come to reestablish, through our efforts and sacrifice, the democracy that we have lost,” he said.

Protests were held in Milan, Genoa, Naples and Bari but the largest was in Rome where thousands packed into the Piazza del Popolo which two months ago had been the scene of violent riots after Berlusconi won a confidence vote.

Demonstrators, including prostitutes and nuns, carried banners saying: “Berlusconi resign now” while another said “No prostitutes, no Madonnas, just women.”

The protests came a week after demonstrators had also attempted to march on Mr Berlusconi’s home at Arcore near Milan, where the alleged parties were held, in an attempt to throw knickers into his garden but police prevented them.

Organisers called the protest “If Not Now, When?” which is also the title of a famous novel by the Italian award winning writer Primo Levi and which tells the story a group of Jewish partisans behind German lines during World War II as they seek to continue their fight against the occupier and survive.

The demonstrators struggled to be heard at times amid the din from blowing of whistles and banging of cooking saucepans during the rally in the centre of the capital, aimed at heaping more pressure on the beleaguered Berlusconi.

But they did manage to break into song at one point, with a rendition of “Bella Ciao” [see next], one of the anthems of the Italian resistance during World War II.

Others chanted “Resign! Resign! Resign!” and “After Mubarak, Silvio Berlusconi” during the protest which was held only hours after Egypt’s veteran president quit in the wake of mass streets protests in Cairo.

MORE:

Bella Ciao: “It Will Blow Your Hair Back”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55yCQOioTyY&feature=related>

The song Bella Ciao was sung by the left-wing anti-fascist resistance movement in Italy, a movement by anarchists, communists, socialists and other militant anti-fascist partisans. -- From Wikipedia

**Anti-Government Protesters Clash
With Yemen Police:
More Than 1,000 People Joined The
Protest, Some Of Them Chanting
Slogans Drawing Parallels Between
Mr Saleh, Who Has Been In Power
For 30 Years, And Hosni Mubarak:
“In Taiz City, 250 Kilometres To The
South Of The Capital, Thousands Took
To The Streets”**



Yemeni police block the way as anti-government protesters attend a rally demanding political reform and the resignation of President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa, Yemen, February 13, 2011 Photo: AP

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

Feb 14, 2011 Mohammed al Qadhi, The National [Excerpts]

SANA'A: Hundreds of anti-government protesters clashed yesterday with police, in a third consecutive day of demonstrations calling for political reforms and the resignation of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The protesters, mostly university students, who gathered at Sana'a University for hours before marching towards the presidential palace, were soon blocked by security forces, some dressed in plainclothes carrying clubs. Reports said several protesters were injured in the clash and that police arrested a number of stone-throwers.

Khalid al Anisi, one of the protest leaders, said he was held by police for several hours and questioned about the organisers behind the protests. He said police accused him of stirring up chaos and disorder.

“They beat me up with clubs and electric batons. These are not just rascals. I have been told that some of the attackers in plainclothes are members of the anti-terrorism unit,” Mr al Anisi said.

More than 1,000 people joined the protest, some of them chanting slogans drawing parallels between Mr Saleh, who has been in power for 30 years, and Hosni Mubarak, the long-standing Egyptian president who was forced to step down.

About 40 government supporters organised a rival rally at the gate of Sanaa University, shouting pro-Saleh slogans such as: “With our souls, with our blood, we will sacrifice for Ali.”

In Taiz city, 250 kilometres to the south of the capital, thousands took to the streets to demand Mr Saleh to stand down. According to the opposition, police broke up the protest early yesterday, arresting about 120 people.

Pro and anti-government protesters have clashed several times in recent days. On Saturday, police in plainclothes and government supporters, armed with knives and sticks, routed demonstrators in the capital.

A day earlier, protesters celebrating the toppling of Mr Mubarak were dispersed from the city by the authorities.

Mr Saleh has postponed a visit to the US which that had been scheduled for late February, the state Saba news agency reported yesterday, "due to the current circumstances in the region".

Shortly before yesterday's clash in Sana'a, the Joint Meeting Parties, an opposition coalition of six parties, announced that they accepted Mr Saleh's call for a resumption of talks.

After the protests started in Egypt last month and in an attempt to avert a showdown with protesters, Mr Saleh promised to step down when his term ends in 2013. He also said he would not pass on power to his son and postponed the parliamentary election that was scheduled for April.

The opposition said in a press conference yesterday that to prove he was serious about reform, Mr Saleh should fire his sons, brothers, nephews and other relatives from key military, security and other government positions.

Mr Saleh's son, Ahmed, is commander of the Republican Guards, an elite regiment of the army, while his nephew, Yahia Mohammed Abdullah Saleh, is the chief of staff of the central security forces.

There Are Beginnings Of Stirrings From Below Even In This Particularly Reactionary Piss-Pot Dictatorship Commanded By Greedy Parasites: "Saudi Security Services Briefly Arrested Up To 50 Protesters In Jeddah After Noon Prayers On Jan. 28"

FEBRUARY 12, 2011 By ANGUS MCDOWALL, Wall St. Journal [Excerpts]

For Saudi Arabia, the departure of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak represents a diplomatic setback that could complicate its foreign policy across the Middle East, with repercussions stretching from Iraq to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

In the past month, the Saudi kingdom has seen street protests in Jeddah over inadequate flood defenses, small demonstrations in Riyadh for increased women's rights and social networking posts demanding more democracy. On Thursday, a group of Islamists and human-rights activists announced they had formed a political party—a move that appears mostly a political gesture in a country with no elections.

The ruling family has sent would-be protesters a veiled warning by speaking harshly about the unrest in Egypt.

Last week, the king described Egyptian protesters as “meddling in the security and stability of Arab and Muslim Egypt...to inject their destructive hatred.”

Saudi security services briefly arrested up to 50 protesters in Jeddah after noon prayers on Jan. 28, three days after the Egyptian protests erupted, according to Human Rights Watch.

The kingdom's grand mufti, Sheikh Abdulaziz al-Sheikh, was quoted by official media as saying the protests were plots by the enemies of Islam.

Comment: T

He can find one world-class enemy of Islam by looking at his own pig face in the mirror.

The King and the rest of the Saudi ruling class dictators served so loyally by Mufti Abdulaziz supplement their blood soaked oil incomes with the money extracted from the faithful who come for Hajj.

“Approximately two million hajjis visit the Kingdom annually, plus five million other pilgrims. Despite regime claims that no taxes are collected from the Hajj since pilgrims are the guests of God, the regime earns 10 billion riyals each year from the Hajj, with hajjee paying on average 3000–5000 riyals.”

-- Islahi.info: Movement for Reform in Arabia: للإصلاح الإسلامية الحركة

10 billion riyals = \$2.6 billion U.S.

Per year.

Are these comments too critical of a noble spiritual leader?

Here's another quote from Abdulaziz, on a topic other than his holy opinion about how enemies of tyrants and dictatorship are enemies of Islam:

“‘If a girl exceeds 10 or 12 then she is eligible for marriage, and whoever thinks she is too young, then he or she is wrong and has done her an injustice,’ Sheikh

Abdul Aziz told an audience in Riyadh University last year.” -- 2010-10-11 Middle East Online



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