

Military Resistance 9D13



IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Seattle Soldier Killed In Iraq



Cpl. Brandon Hocking

March 22, 2011 By Hal Bernton, Seattle Times Reporter

Cpl. Brandon Hocking, a 24-year-old soldier from Seattle, died Monday from wounds suffered in a roadside bomb attack in Iraq.

He died just 10 days before his scheduled return home.

Cpl. Hocking was a small-arms repair specialist and also served as a convoy gunner, according to his sister, Brianna Hocking, who exchanged messages with her brother on Facebook just two weeks ago.

"I told him to stay safe, and he told me, 'Don't worry. I love you, and I will be home soon'," Hocking, of Reno, Nev., said Tuesday.

Cpl. Hockings's unit was attacked in the southern Iraq city of As Samawah.

And he posthumously received a Purple Heart and also the Bronze Star, which is awarded for acts of combat heroism, according to an Army spokeswoman at Fort Stewart, Ga., where Cpl. Hocking's unit is based.

Cpl. Hocking was on his second tour of duty in Iraq, where the United States has had ground troops since 2003.

During that period, more than 4,440 U.S. troops have died, including 11 this year, according to the Iraq Coalition Casualty Count.

Cpl. Hocking first joined the Army in November 2005. He served with the 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion. In a June 2010 report by an Army public-affairs writer, Cpl. Hocking was featured as he worked at an armament-repair shop at a base in Iraq, where he was helping put together a team that could travel to repair weapons.

Cpl. Hocking was the eldest of six children and attended Federal Way and Decatur high schools.

He enjoyed fixing up old cars, sketching and playing the acoustic and electric guitar.

"He could strum just about anything," said his grandmother, Delores Pitts, of Lake Tapps.

Friends and family said Cpl. Hocking joined the military after high school in an effort to improve his life.

"I think it probably made him a stronger man," said Mike Davis, a friend since childhood.

On Tuesday, family members said that Cpl. Hocking's parents, Christine Dansereau, of Pomeroy, Garfield County, and Kevin Hocking, of Burien, were traveling to Delaware to meet their son's casket.

Other survivors include Hocking's wife, Havalah Hocking, of Seattle, a 4-year-old son, Sebastian Hocking, and a 3-year-old daughter, Gwen.

He is also survived by sisters Britney Hocking, of Tacoma; Brooke Hocking, of Kent; Brielle Hocking and Gracie Dansereau, of Pomeroy. His surviving grandparents are Myrna Hocking, of Bigfork, Mont., and Gary Pitts, of Lake Tapps.

“Get Out Occupier” [Get The Message?]



Iraqis march in Baghdad April 9, 2011. Many thousands took to the streets of Baghdad calling for U.S. troops withdrawal from Iraq on the eighth anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of the country. The banner reads “Get out occupier.” REUTERS/Kareem Raheem

Resistance Action



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

April 14 AP & April 15 (Reuters)

MOSUL- A roadside bomb went off at an Iraqi army checkpoint close to a mosque and wounded two soldiers, in eastern Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

KIRKUK - A sticky bomb attached to an Iraqi army vehicle seriously wounded an Iraqi officer in southern Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, the Kirkuk police operations centre said.

MOSUL - A grenade thrown at a police patrol wounded a policeman in western Mosul, police said.

MOSUL - A roadside bomb went off near an Iraqi army patrol and wounded one officer in northern Mosul, police said.

KIRKUK - A sticky bomb attached to a vehicle wounded a security guard, in southern Kirkuk on Thursday, police said.

Iraqi officials say roadside bombs have killed two policemen Thursday in Mahmoudiya, a town about 20 miles (30 kilometers) south

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

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

**Afghanistan Resistance Bomber Kills
Five Foreign Troops -- Nationality Not
Announced:**

**Taliban Claims 'Sleeper Agent' Inside
Afghan Army Carried Out Attack At Base
Near Jalalabad**

16 April 2011 Guardian News and Media Limited

A bombing at a military base in eastern Afghanistan has killed five foreign and four Afghan soldiers.

A bomber wearing a military uniform struck inside the base near the city of Jalalabad, the Afghan defence ministry said.

The blast took place shortly after 7.30am Afghan time and represents the biggest recent killing of Nato troops from a single attack.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in an email that the bomber was from central Daikondi province, had enlisted with the Afghan army a month ago and detonated his explosives at a meeting between Afghan and foreign troops.

Coalition officials in Afghanistan confirmed five foreign troops died but did not give their nationalities.

Kentucky Soldier Dies Of Afghan Wounds



U.S. Army Pvt. Brandon T. Pickering, age 21, of Fort Thomas, Ky. Pickering, a 10th Mountain Division soldier stationed at Fort Polk, La., was injured, Friday, April 8, 2011 in Wardak province, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire and a rocket propelled grenade. He died of his wounds April 10, in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Resistance Attack Kills Kandahar Police Chief

15 April 2011 BBC

The police chief of Afghanistan's southern Kandahar province has died in an attack on his headquarters.

Khan Mohammad Mujahid was killed and two other police officers were injured in the blast, officials say.

A bomber managed to penetrate the defences of the police headquarters by wearing a police uniform, the Afghan interior ministry said.

Mr Khan had survived previous attempts on his life. The police HQ has also been targeted in the past.

"The suicide attacker had strapped explosives to his body," deputy chief Shir Shah told the AFP news agency.

"He detonated himself at the gate of Kandahar police headquarters. Police chief Khan Mohammad Mujahid has been martyred, two policemen have been injured."

Taliban spokesman Yusuf Ahmadi said one of its members carried out the attack, and gave AFP a slightly different account of events.

"He had disguised himself as a policeman and shot the police chief with his pistol, hugged him and then detonated himself," he said.

The police headquarters in Kandahar has been the target of several attacks in the past, which had forced the authorities to review security arrangements around the complex recently, the BBC's Bilal Sarwary in Kabul reports.

Khan Mohammad Mujahid had survived two previous attempts on his life, one on his way home and another in his motorcade.

Mr Khan was a former mujahideen commander who fought against the Soviets in the 80s and then the Taliban. He was an influential militia commander fighting in Ahmad Shah Masoud's Northern Alliance.

After the fall of the Taliban, Mr Khan worked for the defence ministry. He was soon appointed the police chief of Balkh, then Ghazni and finally the head of police in his home province of Kandahar.

He had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant general by President Hamid Karzai.

His death is a personal loss for the Afghan president, who is already mourning the killing of an important tribal elder and ally, Malik Zarin, in eastern Afghanistan on Wednesday, our correspondent says.

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format
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More Resistance Action



A destroyed police vehicle at a car bomb explosion on the out skirts of Kabul, Afghanistan April 14, 2011. A car bomber detonated a truck of explosives covered in wood at a government compound in Musayi district, about 40 miles south of the Afghan capital, according Daud Amin, deputy police chief in Kabul. Six members of the Afghan national security forces were injured, he said. (AP Photo/Musadeq Sadeq)



Kabul, Afghanistan April 14, 2011. A car bomber detonated a truck of explosives covered in wood at this government compound in Musayi district, about 40 miles south of the Afghan capital, according Daud Amin, deputy police chief in Kabul. (AP Photo/Musadeq Sadeq)

4.12.11 AP & 14 April 2011 BBC

At least three Afghan policemen were killed when bombers attacked a police training centre in the east of the country, officials say. Police said two bombers also died in the raid on the base in Paktia province where dozens of men were being trained.

Two more attacks took place in Kabul and Kandahar, police said. The Taliban claimed all three attacks.

Several policemen were wounded in the Kabul incident.

According to police, four men with explosives tied to their bodies tried to enter the police training compound in Paktia and were challenged by security forces.

The first attacker blew himself up outside the base, killing three policemen and injuring another three who were guarding the front gate, police said.

A heavy exchange of fire followed in which the second attacker was killed. Police said the remaining two attackers managed to escape, the BBC's Bilal Sarwary reports from Kabul.

In the Kabul attack, a truck laden with explosives blew up outside the district governor's office. The attacker was killed and several policemen were injured, officials said.

The attacks come a week after Taliban militants killed six security personnel in an attack on a police training centre near Kandahar. Three gunmen also died.

A bomb killed two Afghan police officers as they were destroying opium poppies in the southern province of Kandahar. The two police officers who died Tuesday were part of a team eradicating opium poppies in Kandahar's Zhari district, according to a police statement. Two other officers were wounded in the blast.

**“A Strategic Agreement Or A Shameful Deal On The Independence Of A Free People”
[Afghan Resistance Statement]
“All The Countries Of The World And The Region Better Understand The Meaning Of Freedom And Slavery”**



You should know that, aforesaid, the British puppets and the communist surrogates of the former Soviet Union did plunge into these endeavors but yielded nothing except humiliation and historical stigma.

13 April, Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Shahamat.info via Uruknet

Once again reports have appeared in the media, following the previous rumors that the Kabul regime is going to sign Afghanistan's strategic agreement with America.

Karzai, Head of the Kabul Puppet Regime disclosed this in his recent assertions that he would convene a Loya Jirgah (a grand tribal council) to endorse a long-term partnership with America, apparently in an effort to give legality to the agreement.

In fact, Karzai's utterance is a repeat of the remarks of American rulers who sometimes ago said that they wanted establishment of permanent bases in Afghanistan.

However, Karzai being aware of the mentality of the Afghan people, wants to sell it (the idea of establishment of permanent bases) to the Afghans under a relatively misleading title of Strategic Partnership.

We believe, the Americans want to have the Jirgah convened by their puppets to approve the strategic agreement, since they have already failed in their endeavor to maintain occupation of Afghanistan.

Thus, the Americans are trying to pave the way for their long-term presence, establishment of permanent (military) garrisons and maintenance of the occupation of the country.

Therefore, we can say the newly-started hot discussion is no more than shackles aimed at depriving the believing Afghan people of independence and Afghanistan of its valor and pride and ultimately, aimed at subjugating the Afghans.

Every effort must be made to comprehend this and prevent it from being implemented.

Certainly, occupation of a country or a given people and, for that matter, unlawful presence of troops on a soil, be it for a short period, has no justification whatsoever, under any human law. Therefore, the same naturally applies to a deal, trading on the independence of a people for a long period or in that context, usurping a land is never acceptable.

We believe this is not only a disservice to the Afghan people but also not tolerable at regional and world's level.

We would like to remind the Afghan people as regards this conspiracy to understand the sensitivity and dept of the matter.

The Americans have a plan up their sleeves, intending to include our Muslim people and the proud country in the list of their banana republics and colonies.

On the one hand, this is a mockery against our Islamic tenets and national values. On the other hand, it will leave, in the long term, a destructive impact on all aspects including the political, religious, cultural and other facets of the country.

The Afghan people should stand firmly and bravely against the endorsement of the strategic agreement by the Jirgah. They ought to realize the planners, campaigners, participants and helpers of the Jirgah as historical traitors of the sacred religion and country and should fulfill their religious and national obligation in this regard.

All the countries of the world and the region better understand the meaning of freedom and slavery. They should thwart this hatch-up treason which is now in the making against the Afghan people. No law, whether a Divine or human, allows them to remain mere spectators while this shameful deal morphs into its climax.

The occupation of Afghanistan and the presence of American permanent bases here will have its direct (negative) effect on the regional stability and the equilibrium of the situation.

We all know, Afghanistan is not the only target of the Americans but they want to use this country as a springboard, intending to extend their colonial tentacles at the region after securing their feet in Afghanistan.

Thenceforth, they would pose threats to their regional rivals. Similarly, governments of the Islamic World, universal organizations and the UNO should not remain silent as regards this issue.

They should not allow the Americans conspiracy about the permanent occupation of Afghanistan, a free country, take shape. The Islamic Emirate strongly condemns this new plot, hatched and worked out by the enemy.

The Islamic Emirate reminds the rulers of the Kabul Puppet Regime that you will never be able to change the fate of independence of the proud nation by launching these efforts.

You should know that, aforesaid, the British puppets and the communist surrogates of the former Soviet Union did plunge into these endeavors but yielded nothing except humiliation and historical stigma.

(This time too) the nation and history will write you down as national traitors.

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

“We Don’t Want American Bases In Afghanistan” [Get The Message?]



Afghani men hold a banner reads “We don’t want American Bases in Afghanistan” during a protest in Kabul, Afghanistan, April 7, 2011. (AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

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.

**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. Army medic SGT Tyrone Jordan from "Dustoff" team, C Company, 1-214 Aviation Regiment, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade assesses a health condition of the U.S Marine CPL Hayden Hunt from 2/8 Golf Company with a gunshot wound in the arm due a battle against Taliban insurgents, aboard a medevac helicopter in Helmand province, Afghanistan, April 8, 2011. Picture taken April 8, 2011. « Read less
REUTERS/Denis Sinyakov

MILITARY NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?





The casket of Staff Sgt. at Arlington National Cemetery April 15, 2011. Gire, 28 of Chillicothe, Ohio, was killed on March 22, 2011, in Logar province Afghanistan of wounds suffered during an attack on his unit by an improvised explosive device, rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

Soldiers And Students Lead Rebellion Against Burkina Faso Military Dictator: Compaore, In Power Since 1987, “Has Faced A Series Of Protests Since February, Staged First By Students And Then By Soldiers” Grievances Of The Soldiers Include Housing And Food Allowances



15 Apr 2011 Al Jazeera & AFP

Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore dissolved his government Friday and named a new army chief, seeking to reassert his authority after a mutiny by his army and mass streets protests.

Compaore took power in a 1987 military coup,

In three separate decrees, Compaore, announced on Friday that “the secretaries-general of the ministries will be in charge of current affairs” until a new cabinet of ministers is appointed on a date he did not specify.

He also named Colonel-Major Honore Nabere Traore as army chief to replace General Dominique Djindjere.

Mutiny broke out late on Thursday in two barracks, including one in the compound of Compaore’s residence in the capital Ouagadougou, and spread on Friday to three other army bases in the capital, mutineers and army officers said.

“I was going in the direction of the Lamizana (military) camp when I heard the gunfire. I saw people rushing back towards me, so I turned around and went back home,” said Pierre Tapsoba, a resident of the Gounghin neighbourhood in the west of Ouagadougou. I haven’t been out since. It’s bad.”

A second witness said he had seen soldiers in four-wheel-drive pick-up trucks speeding in the streets and firing in the air. One taxi driver was dragged out of his car, which was taken by the soldiers.

Compaore has faced a series of protests since February, staged first by students and then by soldiers.

The president strove to reassert his authority on Friday, holding talks on the grievances of the soldiers, which included housing and food allowances.

A military source later said their demands had been met.

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



“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.”

“The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppose.”

Frederick Douglass, 1852

**Hope for change doesn’t cut it when you’re still losing buddies.
-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

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**

**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.**

**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**

**It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.
-- Larry Christensen, Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers**

**“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”
-- Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787**

**I say that when troops cannot be counted on to follow orders because they see the futility and immorality of them THAT is the real key to ending a war.
-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace**

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

April 14, 1988: Very Happy Anniversary **Next To Last Government To Invade Afghanistan Withdraws In Defeat**



Happy Russian soldiers going home.

Carl Bunin Peace History April 9-15

April 14, 1988: The Soviet Union signed an agreement to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan after ten years of humiliating defeats at the hands of Afghan resistance forces.

April 16, 1971: Honor To Them All



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

Carl Bunin Peace History April 14-20

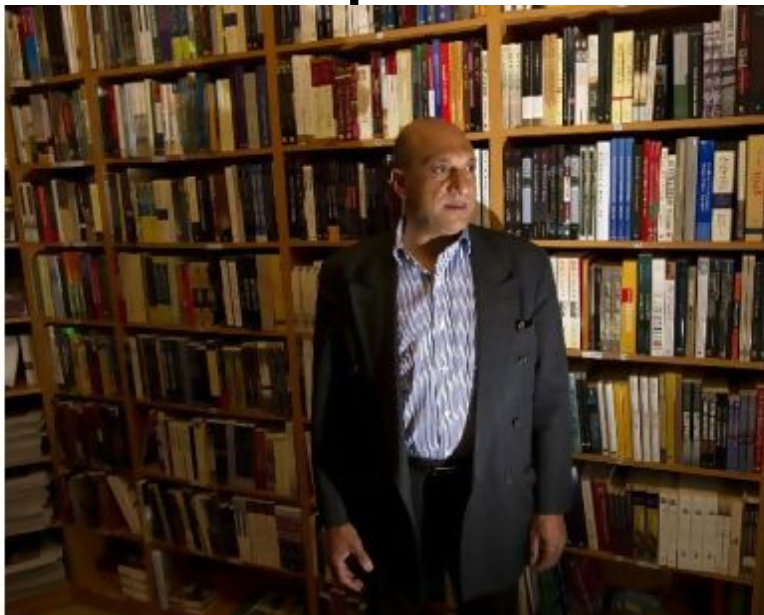
Members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) threw medals they had earned in Vietnam on the U.S. Capitol steps in protest of the Vietnam War.

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

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**The Vicious, Petty Cruelty Of A
Stupid Racist Military
Occupation:
Zionist Regime Labels Jerusalem
Bookseller A “Foreigner” In His
Own Nation:
“It’s Really A Case Of Ethnic
Cleansing”
After 16 Years Running His Bookshop In
The Grounds Of East Jerusalem’s 19th-
Century Hotel, He Is To Be “Deported”
From Occupied Palestine**



Munther Fahmi in his bookshop in East Jerusalem. Mr Fahmi’s days in the city of his birth may be numbered. Ronen Zvulun / Reuters

Apr 13, 2011 By Jonathan Cook, The National

JERUSALEM: In a city full of venerable institutions, Munther Fahmi's bookshop is as revered as any.

He counts among his customers Tony Blair, Kofi Annan and Jimmy Carter and Uma Thurman.

And in a city riven by political and social tensions, Mr Fahmi's bookshop has been a place for dialogue between Palestinians and Israelis, with well-known writers and scholars from both sides of the divide regularly invited to give readings and talk about their work.

Despite his high-profile connections, Mr Fahmi's days in the city of his birth may be numbered.

Israeli officials have told him that, after 16 years running his bookshop in the grounds of East Jerusalem's 19th-century hotel the American Colony, he is no longer welcome in Israel.

Two months ago he exhausted his legal options when Israel's high court refused to overturn the decision to deport him. His only hope now rests with a governmental committee to which he has appealed on humanitarian grounds. Mr Fahmi, 57, is far from hopeful. "My lawyer tells me applications from Palestinians are almost never accepted."

The holder of an American passport for many years, Mr Fahmi said he was staying on a tourist visa that expired on April 3. "If the committee rejects my case, I will be sent packing on a plane at very short notice."

Mr Fahmi is one of thousands of Palestinians who over the past four decades have fallen foul of an Israeli policy stripping them of their right to live in Jerusalem, said Dalia Kerstein, the director of Hamoked, an Israeli human-rights group.

Although Israel annexed East Jerusalem in 1967, in violation of international law, most of its Palestinian population received only Israeli residency permits, not citizenship.

According to Israeli figures, more than 13,000 Palestinians - their current population is 260,000 in East Jerusalem - have had their residency revoked since then.

Ms Kerstein said the number of revocations had risen sharply in recent years, with more than 4,500 Palestinians losing residency in 2008 alone, the last year for which complete figures are available.

Israeli law stipulates that Palestinians in Jerusalem can be stripped of residency if they spent at least seven years abroad - defined as including the Palestinian territories of the West Bank and Gaza - or acquired a foreign passport.

"There is clearly a policy to push Palestinians out of Jerusalem and Israel to reduce what is called here the Palestinian demographic threat," said Ms Kerstein. "It's really a case of ethnic cleansing."

Last week Hamoked and another human-rights group, the Association of Civil Rights in Israel (Acri), petitioned Israel's Supreme Court to overturn the policy, arguing that it contravened international law.

Oded Feller, a lawyer for Acri, said Palestinians in East Jerusalem were effectively “prisoners”, punished by Israel if they took part in the bigger world.

“The problem for people like Munther is that the Israeli government and the courts treat them as though they are immigrants, ignoring the fact that as the city’s native residents they have an inalienable right to live here,” Ms Kerstein said.

Like most other Palestinians in East Jerusalem, Mr Fahmi’s family declined Israeli citizenship in 1967.

“We are Palestinians and Israel is occupying us. Why would we take citizenship and give a stamp of legitimacy to our occupation?”

But that decision left him and like-minded Palestinians in Jerusalem in a precarious position.

Mr Fahmi’s residency was revoked - without his knowledge - during a long period spent in the United States, starting in 1975 when he left to study. He gained his US passport after marrying an American woman and raising a family.

He decided to settle back in Jerusalem in 1995, after the signing of the Oslo accords. “I had seen Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin shake hands in front of the White House. Naively, I thought it heralded a new era of reconciliation.”

For the past 16 years, he has been forced to exit and enter the country every few months on a tourist visa.

Mr Fahmi learnt the full significance of his loss of residency 18 months ago, when interior ministry officials told him that, according to a new policy, he would no longer be automatically issued tourist visas. Now, he has been told, he can spend only three months a year in Israel, including Jerusalem.

In his appeal to the humanitarian committee, he has said he needs to be in Jerusalem to care for his 76-year-old mother, who is bedridden.

“Is there any other country where the native population is treated like this in its homeland?” he said.

The policy to withhold tourist visas to Palestinians with foreign passports has been patchily implemented, said Ms Kerstein, following objections from US and European embassies.

Mr Fahmi appeared a surprising choice for enforcement, given his influential supporters. A petition has attracted more than 2,000 signatures, including those of the British novelist Ian McEwan, who won this year’s Jerusalem Prize for literature, the historian

Eric Hobsbawn, and Simon Sebag Montefiore, whose book Jerusalem: The Biography has been a bestseller.

Mr Fahmi hopes backing from many Israelis and diaspora Jews, including Israel's two most famous novelists, Amos Oz and David Grossman, may forestall his deportation. "I hope the authorities will take note that many of my supporters are people who describe themselves as friends of Israel," he said.

Mr Grossman told Reuters news agency last week that the Israeli government's actions were "a scandal".

Rashid Khalidi, a professor of Middle East history at Columbia University in New York, who has also signed the petition, said Mr Fahmi's case highlighted Israel's determination to maintain a clear Jewish majority in Jerusalem.

A formula devised by an Israeli government committee in 1973 fixed the percentage ratio of Jewish Israelis to Palestinians in the city at 73 to 27. But higher birth rates among Palestinians have seen their proportion swell to a little more than a third of the city's total population.

"There isn't a family I know in East Jerusalem that doesn't have someone affected by this revocation policy," said Mr Khalidi. "It's systematic."

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves "Israeli."]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS



**Syrian Movement Against The Dictatorship Grows Larger And Stronger:
“Friday’s Protests Marked An Escalation”
Anti-Government Forces Moving On The Capital:**

“It’s The Biggest Protest In The Damascus Area And People Got Closer Than Ever Before”

“With so many out in the streets, security forces would have had to inflict massive casualties in order to control the growing flow of people,” said Rime Allaf, a Syrian expert at Chatham House, a think tank in the U.K.

“Clearly, this is not an option for the time being.”

APRIL 16, 2011 Wall St. Journal

DAMASCUS, Syria—Security forces using tear gas and batons broke up a protest by thousands of people in the Syrian capital who had come from the suburb of Douma demanding reforms, witnesses said.

Protesters had been heading to Abasiyeen Square in the hope of getting a foothold in the capital, which has yet to witness large protests in the city center.

In Syria, thousands demonstrated in the city of Deraa, despite a meeting between Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and a delegation from the city on Thursday. Residents said the community was split with some calling for changes such as the lifting of emergency law, while others were shouting for the end of Mr. Assad’s 11-year rule.

Observers said Friday’s protests marked an escalation, although protesters who marched on Damascus came from the suburbs, which have already experienced unrest.

“Whilst people came in from the areas around the capital, its the biggest protest in the Damascus area and people got closer than ever before,” said Razan Zeitouneh, a Damascus-based lawyer and human-rights activist.

Activists and eyewitnesses reported protests in other cities across the country including the coastal cities of Baniyas and Latakia, Homs, the eastern city of Deir Ezzor and Qamischli in the Kurdish northeast.

Elsewhere in the capital, protesters took to the streets in the Barzeh area, where activists said they had been beaten and live fire used to disperse them.

Initial reports suggested protests in Deraa were largely peaceful, after security forces pulled out of the center of the city. It was unclear if anyone had been killed, a week after the bloodiest Friday yet in which at least 28 people were killed.

“With so many out in the streets, security forces would have had to inflict massive casualties in order to control the growing flow of people,” said Rime Allaf, a Syrian expert at Chatham House, a think tank in the U.K.

“Clearly, this is not an option for the time being. However, news of tear gas being fired at protesters trying to reach Abasiyeen Square, even though they are marching peacefully, indicate that authorities are not going to sit by idly but rather try to contain the masses in other ways,” she said.

Other methods the regime has used to contain protesters include arrests and intimidation. Human Rights Watch, a New York lobby, on Thursday said the Syrian authorities had been torturing those detained since protests broke out in mid-March.

The regime has made concessions, but not been enough to quell demonstrations, which continued despite a new round of announcements intended to placate protesters.

The Syrian government on Thursday announced an amnesty for hundreds of prisoners detained since protests began and Mr. Assad unveiled a new cabinet.

The cabinet retained many of the former ministers while the prisoner release excluded those who have committed “crimes against the nation and its citizens,” which activists pointed out gave the authorities a lot of leeway.

“They are all simply superficial changes which show insincerity in the pledges of reform,” said one protester from Damascus.

In a sign of the escalation of Syria’s unrest, media including Al Jazeera Arabic on Friday dedicated more time to the protests. Protesters and activists had grown increasingly frustrated with the lack of airtime given to Syria by the Qatar-based channel.

“The sudden extensive coverage seems to indicate that the behavior of the regime in the last days has reached the limit of tolerance for the Arab countries which have so far given their support to the Syrian president,” said Ms. Allaf.

“The message, probably, is that we cannot continue to ignore the situation at this level of repression, whilst the visit of the Emir of Qatar to Washington probably also had an effect,” she said.

The unrest poses a growing challenge to Mr. Assad’s rule.

He hasn’t addressed the nation since March 30, when he gave a defiant speech and refused to offer concrete reforms. Since then a growing number of protesters have called for the toppling of his Baath party regime, which came to power in a coup in 1963.

Uganda Dictatorship Wounds “Uganda’s Main Opposition Leader” During Nationwide Protests Over Escalating Food And Fuel Prices:

Regime Says Violence Justified Because “There Has Been A Deliberate Effort To Form Processions”



A supporter of opposition leader Kizza Besigye throws a tear-gas canister back at military police on Thursday. Agence France-Presse/Getty Images

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KAMPALA, Uganda—Riots erupted in the capital and towns across the country after police shot Uganda’s main opposition leader with a rubber bullet while trying to arrest him and arrested other opposition leaders during protests over escalating food and fuel prices.

Veteran opposition leader Kizza Besigye underwent surgery at International Hospital Kampala after being hit in the right hand early Thursday, according to Mr. Besigye’s aide, Sam Mugumya, and a doctor at the hospital who said he was recovering.

The shooting sparked riots across Kampala, with opposition supporters blocking many roads with burning tires, logs and stones.

The riots also spread to centers outside the capital, including the eastern towns of Jinja, and the coffee hub town of Mbale, as supporters joined the protests.

In the western town of Masaka, witnesses said, protesters torched a police vehicle. At one point earlier in the day, police fired tear gas into a hospital just outside Kampala, affecting patients.

In the northern city of Gulu, hundreds of protesters fought running battles with the police late Thursday angered by the arrest of the country's second-most important opposition leader and former presidential candidate Norbert Mao, who was leading similar protests there. "Protesters are burning tires on the streets and have blocked several roads," a witness said by telephone.

Police also arrested a third opposition leader, Asuman Basalirwa, who heads a smaller party, known as Jeema, and was leading another Kampala protest.

Authorities accuse the three of inciting violence, saying they haven't sought police approval to hold the demonstrations.

The military later reinforced police in Kampala as the protests intensified but couldn't arrest Mr. Besigye, who was protected by dozens of young supporters.

Late Thursday, both the police and the military maintained a heavy security presence across dusty roads in various Kampala suburbs.

At the hospital, Mr. Besigye's supporters kept guard to prevent his arrest as two military vehicles remained stationed opposite the hospital gate.

Health officials said Mr. Besigye was too weak to address an earlier scheduled news conference at the hospital.

Alice Alaso, the general secretary of the opposition Forum For Democratic Change, who was with Mr. Besigye when he was shot, said he was specifically targeted, adding, "It was an intentional, ruthless shooting."

Witnesses said police fired rubber bullets at several protesters who had formed a human shield around Mr. Besigye in a bid to avert his arrest.

The Ugandan police blamed Mr. Besigye for the incident, saying he disobeyed police orders in a bid to disrupt public order and insisted on leading an "illegal" procession into the city with the aim of disrupting public order.

"There has been a deliberate effort to form processions...this has generated lawlessness in some areas of the city suburbs, which included blocking roads, throwing stones and general disruption of day-to-day activities," said Judith Nabakoba, Uganda's police spokeswoman.

Mr. Besigye, a trained doctor, was Mr. Museveni's personal physician before they fell out in the late 1990s. He has since challenged Mr. Museveni on three occasions for the Ugandan presidency.

In a 2006 election, Mr. Besigye managed to draw a 37% of the vote despite being nominated from prison where he was facing rape and treason charges. A Ugandan court later dismissed the charges, describing them as "trumped up."

In this year's Feb. 18 presidential election, Mr. Besigye's share of the vote dropped to 26%, but he remains popular in urban areas. Poll observers described the elections as marred by various forms of irregularities.

Ugandan protesters are angered by a sudden increase in food prices, including bread, rice, corn, grains and beef.

The shortage has been made worse by increased food exports, mainly to regional markets like Southern Sudan, Western Kenya and Eastern Congo.

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