

Military Resistance 9E10



**“U.S. Troops In Iraq,
Afghanistan Have
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Dust Particles Laden
With Toxic Metals,
Bacteria And Fungi — A
Toxic Stew”**

**“The Dust Contains 147
Different Kinds Of Bacteria, As
Well As Fungi That Could
Spread Disease”**

**“The Metals Have Been Linked To
Neurological Disorders, Cancer,
Respiratory Ailments, Depression
And Heart Disease”**

**"I've Done Sampling Since 1986, And
I've Never Seen Anything That Bad —
Not Even In China,
Defense Department Traitors “Contend
There Are No Health Issues Associated
With The Dust”**

"The everyday fine particulate matter levels in Iraq were about three times greater than what the EPA says is healthy within a 24-hour period, she says — and those levels should not be exceeded more than once per year. "We're blowing that standard out of the water."

5.14.2011 By Kelly Kennedy, USA TODAY [Excerpts]

U.S. troops in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait have inhaled microscopic dust particles laden with toxic metals, bacteria and fungi — a toxic stew that may explain everything from the undiagnosed Gulf War Syndrome symptoms lingering from the 1991 war against Iraq to high rates of respiratory, neurological and heart ailments encountered in the current wars, scientists say.

"From my research and that of others, I really think this may be the smoking gun," says Navy Capt. Mark Lyles, chair of medical sciences and biotechnology at the Center for Naval Warfare Studies at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. "It fits everything — symptoms, timing, everything."

Lyles and other researchers found that dust particles — up to 1,000 of which can sit on the head of a pin — gathered in Iraq and Kuwait contain 37 metals, including aluminum, lead, manganese, strontium and tin.

The metals have been linked to neurological disorders, cancer, respiratory ailments, depression and heart disease, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Researchers believe the metals occur both naturally and as a byproduct of pollution.

Researchers in and out of the military say the particles are smaller and easier to inhale than most dust particles, and that recent droughts in the region have killed desert shrubs that helped keep down that dust. The military's heavy vehicles have pounded the desert's protective crust into a layer of fine silt, Lyles says. Servicemembers breathe the dust — and all it carries — deeply into their lungs.

The dust contains 147 different kinds of bacteria, as well as fungi that could spread disease, Lyles found.

Since the wars began in Iraq in 2003 and in Afghanistan in 2001, the military has seen a 251% increase in the rate of neurological disorders per 10,000 active-duty servicemembers, a 47% rise in the rate of respiratory issues and a 34% increase in the rate of cardiovascular disease, according to a USA TODAY analysis of military morbidity records from 2001 to 2010. Those increases have researchers seeking possible causes.

Despite the research by Lyles and others, and the documented spikes in respiratory illnesses, Defense Department officials contend there are no health issues associated with the dust.

"The (Defense Department) has examined the concerns raised by the studies accomplished by Capt. Lyles," says Craig Postlewaite, who heads up the Secretary of Defense's Force Readiness and Health Assurance Office. He said the military found the dust is "not noticeably different from samples collected in the Sahara Desert and desert regions in the U.S. and China."

Lyles initially analyzed dust samples from Iraq and Kuwait in 2003 to help determine a way to keep the grit from rendering medical equipment useless.

"When I saw the data, I said, 'Oh my God. This can't be right,'" Lyles says.

Harry Fannin, a chemistry professor at Murray State University, analyzed the dust for Lyles in late 2004.

"It was a little bit unusual," he says, citing high levels of chromium, nickel and other metals.

"You wouldn't see metal like that in the U.S.," he says, adding he was most concerned about the tiny size of the particles. "Any time you have respirable particles, it's bad."

Scientists know fine particulate matter — that smaller than 10 micrometers, or about one-fourth the size of a single grain of table salt — can cause lung and respiratory problems.

Catherine Cahill, associate professor at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska, began collecting airborne dust for the military with the Army Research Lab in Baghdad in 2008.

"I've done sampling since 1986, and I've never seen anything that bad — not even in China," she says, referring to China's extreme levels of pollution. The everyday fine particulate matter levels in Iraq were about three times greater than what the EPA says is healthy within a 24-hour period, she says — and those levels should not be exceeded more than once per year. "We're blowing that standard out of the water."

She called the abundance of aluminum and lead she found "our worst-case scenarios." Cahill says her research mirrors the work done by Lyles.

"Most things are high is the bottom line," she says. "I would expect chronic coughs, asthma, respiratory disease in the short term; and (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), heart problems and hypertension long-term. Mark's theory, to me, makes perfect sense."

Lyles' team found almost 150 kinds of bacteria, 25% of which may cause or worsen diseases such as meningitis, cystic fibrosis, septic arthritis, gastroenteritis, staph infections, diarrhea and food poisoning.

The Defense Department says it hasn't linked any illnesses among servicemembers to bacteria in the soil.

But Lyles found others who saw anomalies.

Bob Miller, a pulmonologist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, worked with 101st Airborne soldiers at Fort Campbell, Ky., after they complained of being short of breath and unable to run as fast as they had before they deployed.

Many had been exposed to a sulfur fire in Mosul, Iraq. They also had been exposed to burn pits — the military disposes of trash at bases in Iraq and Afghanistan by burning as much as 240 tons of it a day in open pits. All of them came through chest X-rays and CT scans with clean bills of health. The soldiers volunteered for a procedure to obtain lung cell samples, and when Miller examined the biopsies, 50 of 54 showed constrictive bronchiolitis — a rare lung disease that closes the tiniest airways.

Those biopsies also turned up dust.

"A polarizing lens shows sparkling — that's the dust," Miller says. "It is a concern."

He plans to analyze that dust, as well as a brown pigment mixed with it.

Veterans Affairs researcher Anthony Szema found that about 7% of veterans who had deployed to Iraq from 2004 to 2007 had asthma, compared with about 4% who did not deploy. Then he heard about the burn pits, as well as Lyles' theories.

"Lyles gave a lecture in Denver," Szema says. "Everyone's jaw was falling on the floor."

The range of respiratory disease he saw didn't appear to be caused by one problem. And it seems to be getting worse: About 11% of soldiers returning from Iraq have respiratory problems, he says.

Ronnie Horner, chairman of the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Cincinnati, saw clusters of servicemembers with ALS— or Lou Gehrig's Disease — after the 1991 war in Iraq.

ALS affects about 1 to 2 people per 100,000 — usually men older than 55. Half the Desert Storm veterans diagnosed with ALS were younger than 25, and 98% were younger than 55.

"We know that aluminum has been associated with ALS, as well as lead," Horner says. "We were definitely interested in Lyles' work."

Former Army specialist Jeremy Bowman, 33, worked as a mechanic in Baghdad in 2003. While he was still in theater, his hands began to shake as if he were nervous. Now the shaking shimmies up his arms, into his legs and sometimes into his face. He takes medication to prevent the shaking from interfering with his daily life.

His legs often feel numb or tingly, his back hurts and his leg muscles feel weak.

"It all falls under 'neurological signs and symptoms,' but nobody knows what it is," he says. "Everything new that comes out — burn pits, dust, depleted uranium — I think, 'Maybe that's it.'"

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Rob Erckenbrack, 40, of West Fargo, N.D., deployed at Taqaddum, Iraq, in 2006, and guarded the perimeter at Taji, Iraq, in 2008. He began losing weight, and having respiratory problems and migraines. He also dealt with short-term memory loss but says he was not in an incident that would have caused a traumatic brain injury. In June 2010, he had a stroke.

"My doctors were surprised because I'm a healthy, active, adult," he says. "Then another guy from my unit went through the same thing."

Dale Griffin, an environmental public health microbiologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, also found metals and bacteria in the dust.

Early in the 2003 Iraq War, a rare flu — eosinophilic pneumonia — infected 18 and killed two servicemembers in Iraq, according to a military study. Researchers theorized that the bacteria entered troops' lungs through the dust or through bacteria picked up from the ground from tobacco in foreign cigarettes.

In 2003, Richard Stumbo worked as a civilian contractor for the Department of the Army when he became sick with a flu so bad he had to be airlifted out of Iraq.

"My doctor said he thought it was some kind of bacteria in the dust that I picked up," Stumbo says. "My boss called me after I got home and told me a couple of the guys had died."

It took Stumbo two months to recover.

Geoff Plumlee, a research geochemist with the U.S. Geological Survey, sifted through dust samples in the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks in 2001 to determine what in that particulate matter might affect first responders. His work led to legislation meant to take care of people with respiratory problems and cancers who had breathed in the dust.

Richard Meehan, chief of rheumatology at National Jewish Health in Denver, assisted the Army's Public Health Command with a particulate matter study.

National Jewish had received several cases similar to those of Miller's at Vanderbilt, and Meehan began to think it might be more than simply the burn pits. "We wanted to know why we were seeing these rare injuries that Bob Miller was finding," Meehan says.

He is part of a team working on a study to determine how to address the problem. "We need to see this in peer-reviewed journals," Meehan says. "I'd like to have this done correctly upfront so we don't end up with another Agent Orange."

Meanwhile, Lyles says he wants samples taken in several places to determine hot spots in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. He wants to follow people in units to see how they fare after exposures. He wants toxicology studies and more animal studies. And he wants the military to take notice.

"This has to be confronted," he says.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Rio Rancho Soldier Killed By IED In Iraq

April 27, 2011 Rio Rancho Observer

A 25-year-old soldier who had been living in Rio Rancho was killed Friday in Iraq.

Antonio Stiggins, 25, and another soldier, 1st Lt. Omar Vazquez of Hamilton, N.J., died in an attack by insurgents when an improvised explosive device went off in Numanivah, south of Baghdad.

According to his Facebook page, Stiggins was a 2004 graduate of Mayfield High School.

One of his buddies in Iraq, Army Spec. David Hughes, told KOB-TV this week that Stiggins "always had a smile on his face and he was always laughing. (He was) a guy everyone wanted around."

Stiggins body was transported back to the U.S. A special service for him was planned for Thursday in Iraq, where his boots and dog tags remained; a 21-gun salute was planned.

An online memorial is posted for Pfc. Stiggins; it can be found at unifiedpatriots.com/2011/04/25/when-the-cello-sings-harmony-lt-omar-j-vazquez-and-pfc-antonio-g-stiggins-iraq/.

This is done for fallen heroes; the memorial is in an archive so readers may find them and they do not disappear from the website. The link for the archive is unifiedpatriots.com/category/by-an-angels-kiss/.

Michigan Soldier Killed April 29 By Insurgents With A Rocket-Propelled Grenade



The flag-covered casket of Army Pfc. Robert M. Friese at Stocking Funeral Home in Harrison, Mich. May 12, 2011. Friese grew up in the mid-Michigan community of Harrison. The 21-year-old died April 29 after his unit was attacked by insurgents with a rocket-propelled grenade in Al Qadisiyah province in Iraq. (AP Photo/The Saginaw News, Jeff Schrier)

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

Militants Report Slipping Guns To Prison Inmates For Weeks Before Attempted Baghdad Escape

May 12 By Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Extremists boasted in a statement Thursday that they slipped guns and messages to inmates for weeks before a bloody — but ultimately unsuccessful — prison break this week that left 17 dead.

The statement by the Islamic State of Iraq did not explicitly say the inmates had inside help, but the new details strongly suggested that they did.

Militants in Baghdad were able “to infiltrate the building’s security system weeks prior and to communicate with the detained group, to familiarize them with their plan of escape,” the statement said.

“They managed, thanks to Allah and His success, to introduce three pistols into the rooms of the brothers in the solitary confinement area,” it said. “All the components of the operation were completed inside and outside.”

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki told reporters Wednesday the government was investigating whether the breakout was an inside job, acknowledging that the inmates had grenades and other weapons during the attack.

“How the weapons and grenades entered the prison, and who entered them, so I cannot discuss now but the investigations are continuing and have reached to an advanced stage,” al-Maliki said.

More Resistance Action



(Graphic: London Financial Times)

May 10 (Reuters) & May 12 (Reuters)

TIKRIT - A roadside bomb targeting a police patrol killed one policeman and wounded a policeman, when it went off in Tikrit, 150 km (95 miles) north of Baghdad, police sources

said. Hakim al-Jibouri, a police lieutenant colonel in Tikrit, said the explosion was caused by a parked car bomb.

MOSUL - A sticky bomb attached to the car of police Lieutenant Colonel Zaid al-Omari wounded him severely when it exploded in eastern Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, a police source said.

BAGHDAD - A roadside bomb exploded near a convoy carrying Yaseen Mustafa, a Baghdad provincial council member, wounding three of his guards in Baghdad's western Amiriya district, an Interior Ministry source said. The source said Mustafa escaped unharmed.

BAGHDAD - A bomb attached to the vehicle of Salam Abdullah, a director general of the Iraqi Cement State Company, killed him when it went off in Baghdad's southern Doura district.

BAGHDAD - Two roadside bombs went off in quick succession, wounding two policemen, an Iraqi soldier and two employees of the National Security Ministry, in Baghdad's western Ghazaliya district, an Interior Ministry source said.

MOSUL - A roadside bomb went off near a police patrol on Wednesday, wounding three policemen in western Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Two Foreign Occupation “Service Members” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan By Afghan Policeman Thursday: Nationality Not Announced

May. 13, 2011 AP & ISAF

Two foreign service members were killed in southwestern Helmand province by an Afghan policeman Friday.

The two were part of a mentoring team who arrived at the compound to provide mentoring support for the 5th ANCOP brigade.

The mentoring team was preparing to eat lunch with the ANCOP when a uniformed Afghan National Civil Order Policeman began shooting at foreign service members,

Other soldiers returned fire and the policeman was wounded and hospitalized.

The names and nationalities of the service members, along with other details, were not released.

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

May 13, 2011

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

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

May 10, 2011 AP

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

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

May 4, 2011 AP

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

Two Romanian Soldiers Die In Afghanistan: “Around 65% Of Romanians Are Against Any Military Involvement Of The Balkan Country In The Armed Conflicts”

10 May 2011 by Marian Chiriac, Balkan Insight

A 28-year-old soldier is the second Romanian to die in Afghanistan in less than a week, and the 19th Romanian service member killed in the conflict there.

Corporal Catalin-Ionel Marinescu was killed on Tuesday in Afghanistan after the vehicle he was travelling in hit an explosive device, the country's Defence Ministry has announced.

Defense Minister Gabriel Oprea posthumously promoted Marinescu to the rank of second lieutenant and submitted to the president a request for him to be decorated with the "Star of Romania in rank of Cavalier."

Corporal Constantin Laurentiu Lixandru, 30, was killed several days ago by an explosive device while on a mission in Zabul province.

Romania has about 1,700 troops serving in Afghanistan — mostly in the restive south.

Around 65 per cent of Romanians are against any military involvement of the Balkan country in the armed conflicts, according to polls.

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

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

Master Sgt. Tara Brown: U.S. Airman Killed In Afghanistan



Tara Brown (April 29, 2011)

May 3, 2011 By Bianca Prieto, Orlando Sentinel

The dining table in Jim Jacobs' modest apartment has become a shrine to his fallen daughter.

Dozens of photographs depict the personal moments in the life of U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Tara Brown: a well-worn photo of a little girl and her brother sitting in Santa Claus' lap; a church choir performance in New York; Polaroid photos of her first trip to Walt Disney World; basic training in Texas.

And most recently a party at her Maryland home to celebrate her wedding and latest deployment to Afghanistan.

Brown's tour, scheduled to end in January, was to be her last. The 33-year-old career Air Force airman died April 27 in a hail of gunfire near the Kabul Airport in Afghanistan. She was among nine Americans killed when a veteran Afghani pilot opened fire in a training room after an argument with a foreign colleague.

Brown was assigned to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and was the client-support technician in charge of a personnel division at Joint Base Andrews Naval Air Facility in Maryland.

The incident is being investigated by the U.S. Department of Defense. A week after Brown died, U.S. armed forces killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden in a carefully orchestrated attack on his compound in Pakistan. Jacobs, like many Americans living on the East Coast, was in bed when news broke of bin Laden's death. "I was elated; I was ecstatic," Jacobs said. "It's been 10 years that we've been trying to find this guy. He's one of the reasons why she (Brown) was over there."

In the week since his daughter's death, Jacobs has received dozens of phone calls from friends, family, and his co-workers in Walt Disney World's transportation department.

As Jacobs sat for an interview with a local television station, he grabbed a framed picture and held it in his lap.

"It's all about her, you know," he said.

Brown and three siblings grew up on Long Island before moving to Deltona in the mid-1990s. They were raised by their father, who later remarried and had another son.

She sang in the church choir and aspired to become a pediatric nurse. But three weeks before graduation from Deltona High School in 1995, Brown told her father she was going into the Air Force.

Since then, Brown has worked her way up the ranks, becoming a master sergeant. Her latest deployment was on what her father called a "history-making mission." Brown was training Afghan airmen on computer and networking skills.

Late last year, Brown and her longtime friend, Army Sgt. Ernest Brown, married at a New England courthouse. They celebrated with a party at their Maryland home. The couple did not have children.

Jacobs made the trip north to celebrate with his daughter and new son-in-law. While Jacobs was visiting, Brown made sure to have one-on-one time with her dad — they went shopping together.

On Monday, Jacobs wore the black-striped dress shirt Brown bought him the last time they were together.

"She was never afraid," Jacobs said. "She was very happy in what she was doing. She was trying to liberate somebody."

Brown's body will be returned to the U.S. soon. A burial in Maryland is planned later.

Besides her father and husband, Brown is survived by her mother, Gladys Vereen of New York; brothers Jim Jacobs of Kissimmee, Dominic Jacobs of New York, and Michael Jacobs of Deltona; and sister, Laguanda Jacobs of Maryland.

Soldier 'Loved What She Was Doing' In Army

May 1, 2011 By Leonna Heuring, Sikeston Standard Democrat

CHARLESTON -- Even though Cynthia Taylor was 32 years old when she joined the U.S. Army, her mother said serving her country is something Taylor always wanted to do.

"At 17 and again at 19 years old, she wanted to join the Army, and my sisters convinced her not to," recalled Taylor's mother, Judy Ann Hart of Charleston.

But Taylor never gave up on her dream. In 2003, she enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., as a member of the 101st Airborne Sustainment Brigade and was a wheel mechanic.

"She loved what she was doing," Hart said about her daughter.

On April 16, the 39-year-old staff sergeant was killed by a suicide bomber while serving with the 101st Airborne Sustainment Brigade at the Forward Operation Base in Kabul Gamberi, Afghanistan.

"I wish everybody could've known her," Hart said about her daughter. "She was an awesome child and adult -- and a fantastic soldier."

Pea Ridge Soldier Injured In Afghanistan

05/14/11 N.W. Arkansas

A Pea Ridge soldier Nicholas Harvey, was injured Monday in Afghanistan when the truck he was driving was hit by an improvised explosive device.

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/)

Taliban Battalion Attacks Regime Forces In Nuristan: “A Military Helicopter Crashed As It Ferried Reinforcements To An Even Larger Battle In The Northeast”



May 11, 2011: An Afghan Defense Ministry helicopter crashed when it hit a tree about 300 yards (meters) from the building housing governor Jamalludin Badar in the northeastern province of Nuristan, Afghanistan. The Afghan Defense Ministry helicopter was one of four ferrying a unit of the National Intelligence Service's rapid reaction force. (AP Photo/Press Department of Governor's Office)

10 May 2011 Written by Sonil Haidari, TOLONews

More than 400 Taliban fighters attacked on Afghan police checks posts in eastern Nuristan province on Tuesday, local officials said.

Gen. Shams-ur-Rahman Zahid, police chief of Nuristan province told TOLONews that more than four hundred Taliban fighters including Pakistanis have attacked on Wama district at 10:00 am local time and clashes still continue.

Three Afghan policemen have been wounded, two insurgents were killed and five others were hurt in the clashes, he added.

Mr Zahid said that they contacted the central government to help them, but the government has not yet deployed more troops to the province.

There are few NATO or Afghan soldiers in mountainous Nuristan, near the Pakistan border.

Taliban on Wednesday fought with security forces in a northern Afghan village, and a military helicopter crashed as it ferried reinforcements to an even larger battle in the northeast.

Mohammed Zareen, a spokesman for the Nuristan government, said nine people were injured when the Afghan MI-17 Defense Ministry helicopter crashed after hitting a tree. It was one of four ferrying a unit of the National Intelligence Service's rapid reaction force. They were being escorted by two Afghan attack helicopters.

Afghan police were also engaged in fierce battles with about 100 Taliban fighters on motorcycles who attacked Abduraman village in northern Jawzjan province late Tuesday in an overnight firefight that raged intensely for two hours.

Zareen, the governor's spokesman, said violence ended after police sent 150 reinforcements to the area. He said that the militants had fired down from the mountains with rockets, mortars and heavy machine guns.

"It's not like a face-to-face gunbattle. They occupied some mountaintops and used heavy weapons," Zareen explained.

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.

The Great Afghan Police Training Fiasco Rolls On: "Afghan Police Are Committing Crimes Such As Child Sex Abuse, Torture And Killings With Impunity"

May 2011 By Thomas Harding, Defence Correspondent, Telegraph Media Group Limited [Excerpts]

Afghan police are committing crimes such as child sex abuse, torture and killings with impunity, according to a report released by Oxfam. The charity has warned that unless

the international community acts immediately the country will not be secure enough to hand over to Afghan forces in 2014.

The report, titled No Time to Lose, claims Nato is not doing enough to prevent abuses by Afghan police and "time is running out" for change. It warns that unless training is "urgently stepped up there is a serious risk that abuses and violations by Afghan forces will escalate".

As Nato prepares for withdraw from Afghanistan there are "serious concerns regarding the professionalism and accountability of the security forces they will leave behind".

It outlined a number of abuses that Afghan forces are alleged to have carried out including torture, killings and sexual abuse of children.

"Incidents of sexual abuse and exploitation of boys (including the practice of 'dancing boys') by the ANSF [Afghan National Security Forces] have also been reported, although the subject is so taboo that understanding the extent of the problem is difficult."

It gave an example of a girl killed by a soldier who the security forces helped flee the area. In another incident women were lashed in public by local elders as members of the police stood by "laughing and clapping".

There was no "satisfactory mechanism" for an individual can lodge a complaint against the security forces and people were scared to do so.

The report said there are an estimated 40,000 police who have had no training at all and criticises NATO for prioritising quantity over quality.

Many people with "dubious human rights records" have been recruited particularly in the Afghan Local Police who act as local militia groups and have allegedly been involved in kidnappings and beatings.

Afghan Civilians In Nangarhar Killed For Protesting Killing Of Afghan Civilian: Kid Killed Friday Night: "Thursday, Afghan And Foreign Troops Killed A Policeman And A Girl During A Raid On Their Compound, Also In Nangarhar"



Afghan police stand near the body of a 12 year old girl killed by foreign troops in the Surkhroad district of Nangarhar province May 12, 2011. Afghan and foreign troops shot dead an Afghan policeman official and the unarmed girl during a raid on a compound in eastern Afghanistan overnight. REUTERS

May 14, 2011 Reuters & 12 May TOLONews

Hundreds of Afghans protested on Saturday against the accidental killing of a teenage boy by foreign forces in a volatile eastern province, and the district governor said one man was shot dead as police fired at the crowd after it turned violent.

District governor Abdul Khaliq Mahroof told Reuters demonstrators had poured into the streets in the Hesarak district of eastern Nangarhar province to denounce the overnight killing of a 15-year-old boy by Afghan and foreign troops.

Hesarak borders Kabul province and lies some 70 km (40) miles southeast of the capital.

In a statement issued early on Saturday, International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said its troops had mistakenly killed a 15-year-old boy during an operation with Afghan forces to capture a Taliban insurgent in Hesarak.

"As a force protection measure, a security force member engaged the individual, resulting in his death. After initial assessment, it was discovered the individual was a local 15-year old male."

The teenager's killing was the second such incident this week.

On Wednesday night, Afghan and foreign troops killed a policeman and a girl during a raid on their compound, also in Nangarhar.

The incident happened at 12:00 pm local time in Sorkhroad district when foreign forces launched a military operation to clear militants when a 12-year-old girl and a policeman were killed, residents told TOLONews reporter.

Meanwhile, ISAF confirmed the incident and said it happened mistakenly.

UNREMITTING HELL ON EARTH; ALL HOME NOW



A United States Marine who was wounded in an explosion from an IED is carried to a U.S. Army medevac Blackhawk helicopter from Task Force Lift 'Dust Off' Charlie Company 1-214 Aviation Regiment, as he is evacuated from an area north of Sangin District, in Helmand Province of southern Afghanistan, May 8, 2011. (AP Photo/Kevin Frayer)

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

Insurgents Kill Foreign Military Official

13 May 2011 Shabelle Media Network

Mogadishu — Al shabaab movement, on Thursday afternoon, displayed an AU soldier in northern Mogadishu after heavy fighting with Somali government African Union peacekeepers [translation: U.S. government-backed occupation troops].

Ali Mohamoud Rage, the spokesman of Al shabaab fighters told reporters that the AMISOM soldier was killed in fighting on Thursday morning with what dubbed to be African crusaders and the forces of apostate government.

Rage said that killed soldier was one AMISOM military officials, adding that they have documents showing that.

For his part, Paddy Akunda, the spokesman of AMSIOM forces admitted that one of their officials killed and three others injured during Thursday battle.

He said it is deplorable a body of someone dead to be dragged in the streets.

MILITARY NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



Spc. Harrison Peck hugs his girlfriend, Alexis Barbosa before he boards the bus May 13, 2011, outside the Army Reserve Center in Knoxville, Tenn. More than 200 soldiers from the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion will spend the next month training at Fort Dix, N.J. before traveling to Afghanistan in June. (AP Photo/Knoxville News Sentinel, Miles Cary)

Obama Regime Continues Tormenting The Wounded:

After New System To “Speed Up” Disability Evaluations For Wounded And Injured Troops, Waiting Time For Benefits Goes From 295 Days To 395 Days; “These People Are Suffering Now, Not Yesterday”

My 16, 2011 By Karen Jowers, Army Times [Excerpts]

A new system designed to speed up disability evaluations for wounded and injured service members is proving less speedy than envisioned in recent months, according to government auditors.

The timeliness of evaluations in the new system — a collaboration between the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments — has worsened significantly since August, said Daniel Bertoni, director of education, workforce and income security issues for the Government Accountability Office.

Bertoni, who testified at a May 4 hearing of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee’s national security panel, said active-duty cases are taking an average of 394 days to go from initial referral to receipt of VA benefits — 99 days longer than the 295-day goal that was generally being met in February 2010.

Averages range from 367 days for the Army to 455 days for the Marine Corps, Bertoni said, noting that estimated average processing time under the much-criticized legacy system, now being phased out, is 540 days.

The biggest challenge to faster processing, Bertoni said, is insufficient staffing at sites that are using the new system.

Lawmakers reacted to the GAO assessment with dismay.

“This is simply not acceptable,” said Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md. “We’re now well above the initial goal of 295 days. At some point, somebody’s got to say, wait a minute, these people are suffering now, not yesterday. When I see the numbers increasing ... it seems like alarm bells should go off everywhere.”

“You can understand why we’re all so infuriated,” said Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah. “We’re going backwards at this point.”

When pressed for a timeline on when the problems would be fixed, John Medve, VA’s executive director of VA/DoD Collaboration Service, could not provide one.

He said VA is taking a hard look [**“hard look” --- bureaucratic bullshit used by slime who think other people are too stupid to understand that it means nothing at all, except another “fuck you” to injured troops**”] at ensuring that sites using the new system have the required amount of medical and other personnel, and other resources.

VA Secretary Eric Shinseki “considers this a leadership issue [**“leadership issue” --- bureaucratic bullshit used by slime who think other people are too stupid to understand that it means nothing at all, except another “fuck you” to injured troops**”],” Medve said.

[Obviously Mr. Medve needs a fast trip to Afghanistan, where he can at last serve some useful purpose taking point through Taliban territory, and get a “hard look” at what that means. That may also be referred to as a “leadership issue” of a different kind. T]

**“Is The Army Making It Hard For Many Of Its More Valuable Reserve Officers To Resign?”
“A Process That Is Supposed To Take About Eight Weeks Is Being Drawn Out – In Some Cases By Up To Two Years”
“If It Becomes Widely Known That Being A Less-Than-Stellar Performer Is The Best Way To Get Out Quickly, Some Officers Could Be Tempted To Slack Off”**

05/12/11

Is the Army making it hard for many of its more valuable Reserve officers to resign?

It sure looks that way.

A process that is supposed to take about eight weeks is being drawn out – in some cases by up to two years.

That's creating real difficulties for many soldiers, forcing them to put personal decisions like marriage and higher education on hold while the military gets its act together.

The problem is so widespread, according to a spokesman for the GI Rights Hotline, that it seems like a deliberate strategy of delay to so frustrate officers that they will give up and stay in the Reserves.

Others say much of the problem is due to the fact that many Reserve supervisors have full-time civilian jobs that interfere with their administrative duties.

The Army would not say how many complaints it has received about delays or how many officers have been waiting long periods for their retirement paperwork to be processed.

Not everyone is having trouble getting out. That privilege seems to be reserved for the better officers.

A captain quoted by the Minneapolis Star Tribune – one not trying to get out – said,

“People who are satisfactorily performing have a harder time getting out than people who are not . . . I don't know where the system is breaking down, but I know that things should happen much quicker.”

The idea of holding on to good officers as long as possible is understandable at a time when the nation is fighting two wars. But in the long term it could be self-defeating.

If it becomes widely known that being a less-than-stellar performer is the best way to get out quickly, some officers could be tempted to slack off.

And the difficulties getting out could deter some strong candidates from signing up for the Reserves in the first place.

If the Army wants to hold on to good officers, then make them an offer they would find hard to refuse. But it's disingenuous and insulting to keep them in a state of uncertainty for years.

National Guard Major Took Bribe From Afghan Contractor

May 12, 2011 Associated Press

An Afghan contractor has pleaded guilty to charges he bribed an Illinois National Guard officer to arrange contracts worth more than \$1 million at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.

Noor Alam entered the plea last week in U.S. District Court in Chicago.

Alam and two other contractors were arrested in August 2008 as they arrived at O'Hare International Airport.

Alam admitted paying a \$27,000 bribe in 2004 to Army Major Christopher West.

Prosecutors allege West split the money with Illinois National Guard Lt. Robert Moore, and Air Force Master Sgt. Patrick Boyd of Florida. Officials say the bribe secured a contract for Alam to supply bunkers and barriers to Bagram Air Base.

Prosecutors say the case is part of a broader investigation into military contracting fraud.

ANNIVERSARIES

May 13, 1968: Heroic Anniversary The French General Strike Begins



“We Are The Power”

Carl Bunin Peace History May 7-13

Workers joined Paris students' protest, launching a general strike calling for the fall of the government and protesting police brutality.

The protest by French students included occupation of The Sorbonne; by the end of the month over 10,000,000 had been involved in school and workplace occupations.

Mothers Day Proposed: May 15, 1870

“We, The Women Of One Country, Will Be Too Tender Of Those Of Another Country To Allow Our Sons To Be Trained To Injure Theirs”

Carl Bunin Peace History May 11-17, 2009

May 15, 1870: Julia Ward Howe, suffragist, abolitionist and author of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” proposed Mother’s Day as a peace holiday.

Julia Ward Howe, 1870

Arise, then, women of this day!
Arise, all women who have hearts,
Whether our baptism be of water or of tears!

Say firmly: “We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies,
Our husbands will not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause.
Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn
All that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy and patience.
We, the women of one country, will be too tender of those of another country
To allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs.”

From the bosom of the devastated Earth a voice goes up with our own.
It says: “Disarm! Disarm! The sword of murder is not the balance of justice.”
Blood does not wipe out dishonor, nor violence indicate possession.
As men have often forsaken the plough and the anvil at the summons of war,
Let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of
counsel.

Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead.
Let them solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means
Whereby the great human family can live in peace,
Each bearing after his own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar,
But of God.

In the name of womanhood and humanity, I earnestly ask
That a general congress of women without limit of nationality
May be appointed and held at someplace deemed most convenient
And at the earliest period consistent with its objects,
To promote the alliance of the different nationalities,
The amicable settlement of international questions,
The great and general interests of peace.

MORE:



Cover illustration by Arthur Machia for *The Rebel Girl*. Words & Music by Joe Hill (Ithaca, NY: Glad Day Press, 1940, c1915).

“The Rebel Girl” In Person



Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, June 1913, speaking against capitalism and for working class revolution to a mass audience

Joe Hill dedicated his song "The Rebel Girl" to her a few months before he was executed November 19, 1915 by firing squad in Utah for organizing workers to join labor unions affiliated with Industrial Workers Of The World.

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

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Troops Invited:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send email to contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

CLASS WAR REPORTS



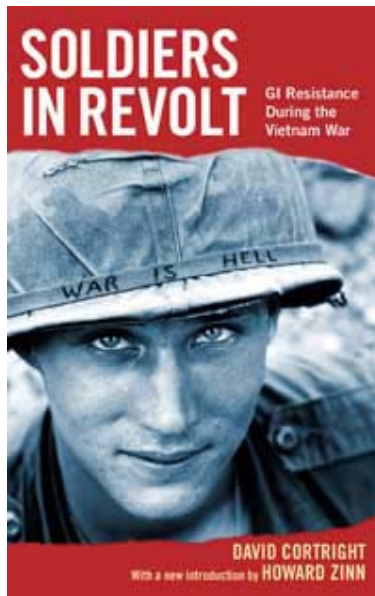
Yemen Marches Against The Decrepit Tyrant Saleh



Anti-government protesters demand the ouster of Yemen's dictator Saleh in Sanaa May 13, 2011. REUTERS/Ahmed Jadallah

A Vietnam Soldier Wrote The Book All About How An Armed Forces Rebellion Stopped An Imperial War

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



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

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