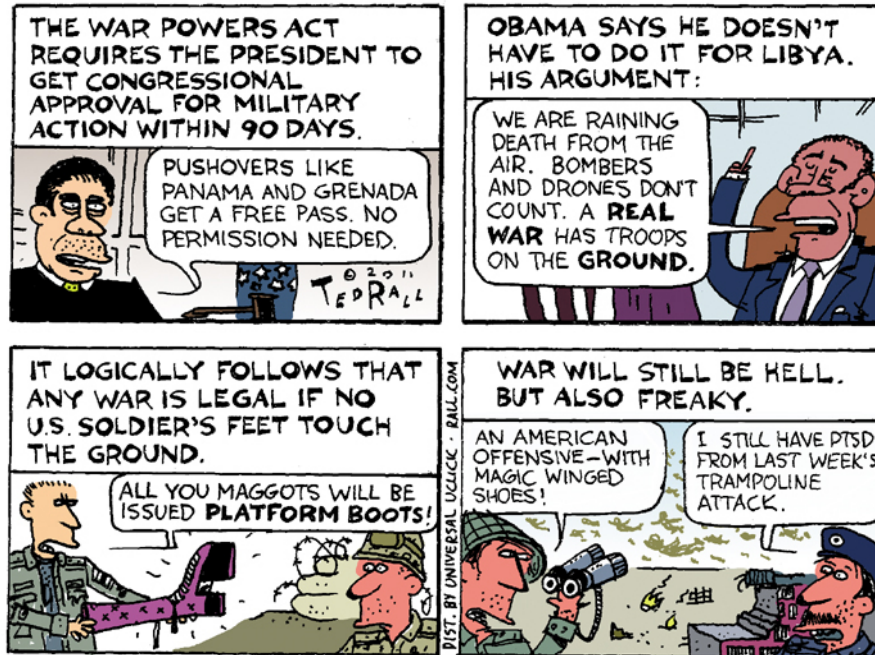


Military Resistance 9F14



“Growing Ranks Of Wounded At Remote Combat Outpost In Afghanistan’s Pech River Valley”

Insurgent Attacks Inflict High Casualty Rate On U.S. Troops:
“About 10 Percent Of The U.S. Troops Here Have Been Injured By Taliban Mortars, Small-Arms Fire And Improvised Explosive Devices”

“The Taliban Has Set Up Impromptu Checkpoints Along The Roadways”

Jun 21, 2011 By Carmen Gentile - Special to USA Today [Excerpts]

COMBAT OUTPOST HONAKER MIRACLE, Afghanistan — Sgt. Lawrence Teza was in his barracks when the door was ripped open by an explosion, spraying his left side with shrapnel and breaking his hand.

"When the bombing started I was counting all my men ... then wham!" he recalled from his hospital bed hours later.

Teza, along with Spc. Mathew Standford, who was peppered with shards from the metal door, joined the growing ranks of the wounded at this remote combat outpost in Afghanistan's restive Pech River Valley in Kunar province, which borders Pakistan.

Since deploying in late April to this small base nestled among jagged mountains, small farms and mud-brick villages, about 10 percent of the U.S. troops here have been injured by Taliban mortars, small-arms fire and improvised explosive devices.

"We've had a lot of guys get hurt, but we have a tough AO," said Capt. Brian Kalaher, commander of the outpost, which was named after two service members killed in action.

Here in the Pech Valley, U.S. and Afghan forces are fighting an "economy of force" mission, holding the line against the Taliban while building the capability of Afghan security forces.

Until recently, Honaker Miracle was one of four U.S. bases along the Pech, a region that was previously occupied by a battalion, Kalaher said.

Battalions are typically 600 to 700 troops. Over the winter, several of the bases were turned over to the Afghan army and another U.S. position — Combat Outpost Michigan — was closed and razed.

In previous years even smaller bases were scattered deeper in remote valleys off the Pech.

The troops here at Honaker Miracle have received a regular barrage of attacks, more than a dozen in less than two months, some lasting several hours.

During one attack, a mortar round hit a crane used to tow disabled armored vehicles and set it ablaze, reducing the vital piece of equipment to a charred hulk.

"They tested us during the first part of the deployment, a lot in May," said Kalaher from his office where an all-white Taliban flag, removed from a nearby mountainside, hangs from the ceiling.

“We set a precedent that we are not afraid to shoot back.” [That will show ‘em for sure. Definitely a Captain steeped in the rich wisdom of tactics and strategy. T]

Following the recent attack injuring Teza and Stanford, airstrikes obliterated a nearby fighting position, reportedly killing at least two Taliban fighters.

Plenty of hidden crevices and caves dotting the mountains make effective retaliation difficult. The hardscrabble terrain and a largely unseen enemy fighting from mountainside positions make for a daunting mission, in general. **[Gee, ya think?]**

“When we first got here it was night, so we couldn’t see what was around us,” said Cpl. Ian Beard, who was injured during the first few weeks of their deployment, taking shrapnel to his arm, leg and his lip.

“When we woke up the next morning and saw all the mountains around us, it was intimidating. You feel like people are looking at you all the time.” **[Cpl. Beard has a perfect grip on situational reality. For 100 points and an immediate 90 day all expenses trip to Las Vegas, compare and contrast his comment with “We set a precedent that we are not afraid to shoot back.”]**

The proximity of enclaves of Afghans surrounding the outpost adds to the difficulty. The prospect of civilian casualties weighs heavily on soldiers trying to win over a populace that is largely on the fence in their loyalties.

Platoons of troops regularly patrol nearby villages on foot and interact with the local populace in hopes of winning their trust and gaining intelligence on Taliban movements in the area.

According to local leaders, the Taliban has set up impromptu checkpoints along the roadways and even donned Afghan soldier and police uniforms to “rough up the locals,” Lt. Matt Snyder said.

The troops are also assigned the job of training Afghan army forces, which are expected to assume more security responsibilities ahead of the Obama administration’s proposed 2014 complete drawdown from Afghanistan.

Kalaher gave the Afghan army based at Honaker Miracle and in the Pech mixed marks for their performance thus far. “They are holding down the fort, but that’s about it,” Kalaher said.

Afghan army Capt. Adbul Mahboob said his men currently lack basic necessities for soldiering, including fuel for their vehicles and generators.

Recently, the Afghan army at Honaker Miracle were without generator fuel for five days, depriving them of electricity and air conditioning, turning their shabby barracks into a virtual sauna.

“Right now the weather is very hot and my men don’t have electricity,” Mahboob said. “They can’t get good rest.”

Mahboob often appeals to Kalaher for fuel and other supplies that are supposed to be provided by the Afghan government.

Part of the training, said Kalaher, is teaching the Afghan army here to be self-reliant. **[Right, like setting up a refinery and distilling their own fuel for military operations vehicles. Hey, great plan; be “self-sufficient!”]**

They're not there yet.

“We can do it if we have air support, artillery and good supplies,” Mahboob insisted. “Otherwise, it’s going to be difficult.” **[Capt. Mahboob has a perfect grip on situational reality also.]**

MORE:

AO RC-East: Four Weeks: 16 Dead, 200 Wounded

June 20, 2011 By Yochi J. Dreazen, National Journal Group [Excerpt]

In the roughly four weeks since [Maj. Gen. Dan Allyn, the top American commander in eastern Afghanistan] has been in command of RC-East, 16 coalition troops have lost their lives, including 11 Americans, and more than 200 have been wounded.

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

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

**Police And Government Personnel
Blown Up In Diwaniyah:
Governor's Home Bombed**



Two car bombs that exploded Tuesday outside the local governor's home in the central Iraqi city of Diwaniyah. AFP/Getty Images

June 21, 2011 The Associated Press & Reuters

Twin explosions in the city of Diwaniyah, which is 80 miles outside of Baghdad and well south of most of the insurgent strongholds, killed at least 22 people and wounded dozens early Tuesday near a government compound.

Provincial Gov. Salim Hussein Alwan said he was leaving his house when a bomber rammed into a police checkpoint nearby.

"I was in the garage preparing to leave when the attacker hit the police barrier outside and crashed with their vehicle," Alwan told The Associated Press in a phone interview.

The bomber also crashed into a police vehicle that had munitions inside, said Alwan and Maj. Gen. Othman al-Ghanimy, who commands military operations in Qadisiyah province where Diwaniyah is located.

That caused the police vehicle to explode.

A police officer and a member of the provincial council, Thamir Naji, said there were two bombers driving vehicles who blew themselves up.

At least 37 people were wounded in the blasts at about 7:30 a.m., when security forces were changing shifts, officials said.

Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan said U.S. forces, including an explosives ordinance team, were dispatched to assist Iraqis.

Like most government buildings in Iraq, the governor's house and office are surrounded by walls, and visitors must pass through checkpoints manned by security forces to get inside.

"I had no idea what happened," one security personnel told state television from his bed at the hospital. "I heard only an explosion, flew into the air and went back to the ground," he added as his neck and abdomen were bandaged.

Two soldiers were killed and five other people were wounded when a roadside bomb hit an Iraqi army patrol in Baghdad's eastern Palestine Street.

A roadside bomb killed an Iraqi soldier and wounded three soldiers, in Palestine Street in northeastern Baghdad.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Riley Pfc. Killed In Kandahar IED Blast

Jun 21, 2011 Army Times

A Kansas-based soldier was killed in Afghanistan on Monday, according to the Defense Department.

Pfc. Gustavo A. Rios-Ordonez, 25, of Englewood, Ohio, died in Kandahar province when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. He was assigned to the 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, out of Fort Riley.

No further information was immediately available.

10th Mountain Medic Killed In Afghanistan

Jun 20, 2011 The Associated Press

SAGINAW TOWNSHIP, Mich. — The military says a 21-year-old combat medic from the Saginaw area was killed in an insurgent attack in Afghanistan.

The Defense Department said Monday that Army Pfc. Brian J. Backus of Saginaw County's Saginaw Township died Saturday in Afghanistan's Kandahar province.

The military says Backus was wounded when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire.

He was part of the 10th Mountain Division based at Fort Drum, N.Y.

Ford Drum says Backus joined the Army in June 2010 and underwent training at Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. It says he was deployed to Afghanistan in March 2011.

Fort Drum says he's survived by one child, one brother, father and mother.

Groton Recalls Marine Killed Overseas

June 10, 2011 Ben Wolford, Globe Correspondent

GROTON — William Voitowicz was a tall, lanky high schooler — “all arms and legs,” one teacher said.

More than four years in the Marines changed that. Voitowicz visited teachers at his alma mater, Groton-Dunstable Regional High School, during a recent Christmas holiday leave, and he was lean and fit.

“We all ogled over him,” said Tammie Reynolds, his history teacher. “He looked so grown up. He looked so good and so happy.”

It was the last time friends and family saw Voitowicz, 23, before he was killed Tuesday during his first tour of duty in Afghanistan. Longtime teachers could not remember another graduate of the school to die in combat.

Voitowicz graduated in 2007 and went straight into the Marine Corps. He was serving with a unit based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina and fighting as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in Badghis Province, in northwestern Afghanistan.

He was killed by small-arms fire, said First Sergeant Edward Owens, a Marine Corps spokesman.

Voitowicz's family did not wish to comment yesterday, they said through friends. His father, Kevin, was traveling to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware “where Billy will be coming home,” said Joe Moore, who described the fallen Marine as like a son to him.

“The parents are just two extraordinarily hard-working, give-you-the-shirt-off-their-back kinds of people. My heart breaks for them,” said Mark Hennelly, a guidance counselor at Groton-Dunstable Regional High School.

His mother, Rosemary, is a nurse, a neighbor said, and Kevin Voitowicz is a postal worker and volunteer firefighter at the Westford Fire Department, which serves Groton, a town of 10,000 about an hour northwest of Boston.

“For any community that's faced with this, it brings the harsh realities of war that much closer to us on a personal level,” said Westford Fire Chief Richard Rochon.

Woitowicz's father and his uncle, David Woitowicz, have both worked at the department more than 35 years. Rochon said that, for now, the family is grieving and busy making funeral arrangements.

Some high school students may think of joining the military to see the world or get an education. For Woitowicz, being a Marine was what he wanted to do, Reynolds said.

"That was his dream," said Kevin Coffey, a Groton neighbor who knew Woitowicz all his life, from infancy to his teenage years, when he hung out with Coffey's two sons. "The camaraderie of the Marine Corps was something that he was really drawn to."

He said Woitowicz used to work summers repairing small motors at a shop in nearby Harvard. Sometimes, Woitowicz went to high school early to play basketball with teachers. Sometimes he did their yard work.

THIS ENVIRONMENT IS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH; ALL HOME, NOW



A US soldier of the Viper Company (Bravo), 1-26 Infantry, searches for weapons during a raid in the Sabari village, Khost province of eastern Afghanistan, on June 19. (AFP/File/Ted Aljibe)

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

MILITARY NEWS

**NOT ANOTHER DAY
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**



The remains of Staff Sgt. Kristofferson B. Lorenzo, Pfc. William S. Blevins and Pvt. Thomas C. Allers at Dover Air Force Base, Del., May 25, 2011. Lorenzo, of Chula Vista, Calif., Blevins, of Sardinia, Ohio, and Allers, of Plainwell, Mich., were killed by the same improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Ann Heisenfelt)

**After Asking For Afghanistan
Veterans To Call In, Guess What?
Arrogant, Elitist Shit-Mouthed NPR
Empty Suit Twice Cuts Off And Shuts
Down A Highly Intelligent Combat
Soldier Trying To Tell Some Truth
About Afghanistan;
Another Condescending Turd On The
Show Addresses The Soldier As
“Skipper”**

June 20, 2011 National Public Radio [Excerpts]

NEAL CONAN, host: This is TALK OF THE NATION.

Quil Lawrence, Kabul bureau chief, NPR

Seth Jones, senior political strategist, Rand Corporation

Bing West, author, The Wrong War

I'm Neal Conan in Washington. When President Barack Obama announced his Afghan troop surge in December 2009, he promised that those troops would start to come home next month. He's expected to announce how many and what kind as soon as this week. He may also give us a timeline on the shutdown of U.S. combat operations in Afghanistan.

What's the responsible way to leave Afghanistan?

We especially want to hear from those of you who have been there. [Fucking giant lie, as you will see below. T]

Give us a call, 800-989-8255.

Let's see if we can go next to - this is Tim, and Tim's with us from Fort Campbell in Kentucky.

TIM: Hi. You know, I just got back, and I'll tell you, what your caller, the person you were just talking to on the air said is wrong because I had a 200-man company of ANA, Afghan National Army, working with us on missions, and we'd get the same 22 people each and every time.

They don't want to take the lead.

We had to kick (bleep) - pardon my language, but...

CONAN: [Cuts him off from speaking further]

I understand, and I apologize for excising the word in question, but I understand your anger at the loss of your buddy's life. **And I have to ask you not to use that kind of language.**

WEST: If I could, Neal.

CONAN: **Go ahead, Bing West.**

WEST: **Hey, skipper, look, Tim,** I understand exactly what you're saying. The dilemma we have is if we don't have them do it, we don't want to be doing it for them forever.

["Skipper" is how rich, entitled, upper class Princeton types address their social inferiors. You know, like a gas station attendant. "Hey, skipper, fill it up if you please." Not a direct insult, that would be so infra dig, but a little phrase to put a lesser sort in his place without giving him anything obvious to complain about.]

[And get the “Bing” bit. It’s not his name. His name is Francis J. West, not “Bing” West. That’s one of those precious little affectations also the trademark of elite upper class schools: Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Georgetown etc. Like dogs who smell each others genitals, those little names are one of the ways the upper class bond with either other: Chip, Muffy, Bunny, Win, Skip, Bif, and definitely Bing.]

CONAN: Tim, we’re sorry for your loss.

TIM: And thank you, but - and I agree with him. I’m just saying, you know, everyone says how are we going to get a clean or a good pullout, and let’s get it through our minds now, it’s not going to be clean, it’s not going to be a good pullout.

If we just pull out, it’s going to collapse anyway. So it’s like ripping a Band-Aid off. Let’s just rip it off and see where we go. ‘Cause that’s...

CONAN: [Cuts him off from speaking further]

Tim, thanks very much for the call.

Welcome home.

[Now run along little boy and play with your rifle while your betters talk about Afghanistan.]

**“An Overwhelming Number Of
Voters Believe The United States
Is Involved In Too Many Foreign
Conflicts And Should Pull Back Its
Troops”**

**“Voters Also Do Not Think Having
U.S. Soldiers Fighting In Afghanistan
And Iraq Has Made The Country
Safer”**

**“Forty-Nine Percent Said It Is Not Very
Likely That Troops Will Leave Iraq By
The End Of The Year”**

06/20/11 By Ian Swanson, The Hill [Excerpts]

An overwhelming number of voters believe the United States is involved in too many foreign conflicts and should pull back its troops, according to a new poll conducted for The Hill.

Seventy-two percent of those polled said the United States is fighting in too many places, with only 16 percent saying the current level of engagement represented an appropriate level. Twelve percent said they weren't sure.

Voters also do not think having U.S. soldiers fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq has made the country safer, according to the poll.

Thirty-seven percent said the continued presence of U.S. troops in Afghanistan makes no impact on national security, while another 17 percent said it makes the United States less safe. By contrast, 36 percent said the United States is safer because forces are in Afghanistan.

Those findings were echoed when voters were asked about Iraq.

Forty percent said the military intervention in Iraq has made no difference when it comes to U.S. safety, compared to 32 percent who said the United States is safer because of it. Twenty percent said the country is less safe because of action in Iraq.

The poll also reveals some skepticism about whether U.S. troops will really be removed from Iraq by the end of the year.

Forty-nine percent said it is not very likely that troops will leave Iraq by the end of the year, and another 10 percent said it is not at all likely. Seven percent said it is very likely troops will leave Iraq by the end of the year, and 22 percent said it is somewhat likely.

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

Director of Army Substance Abuse Program At Carlisle Barracks Arrested For Cocaine Distribution [No, Not From The Onion]

Jun 21, 2011 The Associated Press

CARLISLE, Pa. — The director of the Army Substance Abuse Program at Carlisle Barracks is on leave pending further action after his arrest on cocaine distribution charges.

Daniel Hocker, 53, of Carlisle was among 20 people indicted on federal criminal charges earlier this month, The Sentinel of Carlisle reported. Hocker is charged with drug distribution, use of a communications facility and conspiracy.

The program performs drug education, substance abuse testing, intervention and counseling. Hocker led the program for about two years before his security clearance was suspended, The Sentinel reported.

Hocker's lawyer, Christopher Ferro, declined comment on his employment situation.

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

**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.

A European Generation Takes To The Streets:

**“It Almost Seems As If The European
Youth Needed The Images From The
Arab World To Finally Stand Up On
Their Own”**

**“Apolitical Young People Who Long
Believed That Conformity Was The Best
Strategy For Getting By, Have Become
Political Overnight”**

06/07/2011 By Mathieu von Rohr and Helene Zuber, SPIEGEL ONLINE. Translated from the German by Christopher Sultan [Excerpts]

For weeks, hundreds of young people have been camping out in central Madrid. And others across Europe have now begun following their example.

Protests in Lisbon, Paris, Athens and elsewhere show that Europe's lost generation has finally found its voice.

Any real revolution in Paris has to include the storming of the Bastille. Which explains why 200 young demonstrators are sitting in the shade of the trees at Place de la Bastille on this Thursday evening, wondering how to go about staging such a revolution.

Their numbers had already swelled to more than 2,000 by the Sunday before, when they had occupied the entrance to the Bastille Opera and half the square. But then the police arrived with teargas and, since then, have kept strict watch over this symbolic site.

The protestors are trying to create a movement to rival the protests in Madrid and Lisbon. They want tens of thousands of young people to march in the streets of Paris, calling for "démocratie réelle," or real democracy. They believe that there is also potential for such large-scale protest in France, with youth unemployment at more than 20 percent, precarious working conditions and what feels like a constant state of crisis.

"Until now, our problems were always seen as individual problems," says Julien, a 22-year-old physics student who has joined a group called Actions.

"You were told that if you couldn't find a job, it was your own fault. Perhaps we are now experiencing a change taking place, and that we are joining forces to form a pan-European movement against this system."

There is a feeling that unites young people throughout Europe, namely the belief that they will not be able to attain the same level of prosperity as their parents did.

They feel that they have no future.

They are well-trained, and yet they are not finding any jobs.

This feeling has been smoldering for years, affecting the generation of "crisis children," who grew up in a world shaped by economic and other crises, but who never took to the streets to fight for their interests.

But a fundamental change is taking place.

"On March 12, 200,000 People Marched Down The Avenida De Liberdade, Or Avenue Of Freedom, In Lisbon"

On March 12, 200,000 people marched down the Avenida de Liberdade, or Avenue of Freedom, in Lisbon.

It was the biggest demonstration in Portugal since the 1974 Carnation Revolution, a march of the lost generation.

As in Cairo months ago, everything began on Facebook -- with an appeal that Alexandre de Sousa Carvalho and some of his former fellow students at the University of Coimbra posted.

They called upon the Geração à rasca (or "generation of junk"), to join together in protest. "We, the unemployed, the underpaid and the interns, are the best educated generation in the country's history," they wrote. "We are protesting so that those responsible for our precarious situation quickly change this untenable reality."

Carvalho, 25, who studied international relations, is a polite young man with a beard and a leather armband on his wrist. He says that he is normally a patient person. But when he discovered that, despite having obtained a master's degree in English, he would likely only be able to get a limited contract and that he would likely be forced to find work in Africa, he was overcome with fury.

Portugal is the fourth-poorest country in the euro zone.

Even in Greece, the per capita gross domestic product is higher. Unemployment has almost doubled to 12.6 percent in six years; among people under 25, the jobless rate is 27 percent. Of those who do have jobs, more than half are working in temporary positions. Many are pseudo self-employed, earn very little and must pay a tax rate of up to 50 percent.

They receive no social insurance benefits.

Carvalho says that a song by the band Deolinda inspired them to protest. The lyrics epitomized their feelings about life: "I'm from the generation that doesn't get paid. It doesn't bother me. How stupid can I be? Things are going poorly, and that's the way it will stay. Those who can land an internship are lucky. What a stupid world this is, a world in which we go to school to become slaves."

They had never imagined that so many people would end up taking to the streets. Nor did they think that it would be the beginning of a movement that would take hold in other countries, too.

The organizers of the protests in Spain and France contacted him, says Carvalho. They wanted to know how to bring anarchists, right-wing activists, Trotskyists and Catholics together into the streets without a single windowpane being smashed.

In the last few months, the world has gotten used to the images of young people occupying streets and squares.

It is familiar with these scenes from Avenue Habib Bourguiba in Tunis, Tahrir Square in Cairo and the Pearl Roundabout in Bahrain.

Those are the images of the Arab revolution, and now there are similar scenes unfolding in Europe.

But what do they have in common?

The Arab countries are among the poorest in the world. More than half the population is younger than 25. Europe, by contrast, is rich and young people are a minority in societies that are getting older and older. In Arab countries, young people are fighting for democratic rights, while Europe's youth are protesting because they are worried about decline.

In both cases, the protesters are well-educated young people who are unable to find work. They are the driving force of all revolutions.

The tools of the demonstrations are also similar, with young people using social networks to organize but lacking central leadership.

It almost seems as if the European youth needed the images from the Arab world to finally stand up on their own.

A tent city has been set up on Puerta del Sol in Madrid, the most famous square in Spain, for three weeks. The square has become the world of the "indignados," the indignant. The protesters began building the tent city on May 15, a week before local and regional elections.

About 100 people spent the night in the first few nights, but then the election council declared the camp to be illegal -- which only resulted in its growing even faster. On the Sunday of the elections, 30,000 people filled the square and nearby streets, protesting against the economic crisis, incompetent politicians and corruption.

They are also trying their hand at direct democracy. Citizens are encouraged to throw their suggestions into cardboard boxes set up on the square. Every evening, a committee meets to discuss short-term political ideas and those that are more future-oriented.

Two weekends ago, the protesters held gatherings in 120 districts of the capital. They now intend to use these gatherings to refine their ideas and have decided only to meet on Puerta del Sol once a week.

Apolitical young people who long believed that conformity was the best strategy for getting by, have become political overnight.

This is perhaps the most astonishing conclusion to be reached by observing this movement.

And it also applies to France and Portugal, where the protesters are demanding direct citizen participation and are collecting signatures to support bills aimed at improving the situation of young people.

Patri, an 18-year-old woman, was at the protests in Madrid almost from the start. Last Wednesday, she was sitting at the communication stand in her gray hooded sweatshirt. She was coughing and had dark circles under her weary eyes. Nevertheless, she still wants to stay.

"We're making history now," she says. "A chance like this will not come again."

More than 44 percent of people under 25 have no work in Spain, and almost one in three young academics is unemployed.

More than half of those young workers who are employed have so-called garbage contracts, which are often limited to just a few weeks. Even during the boom years, young people suffered from bad schools, expensive universities and a slim job market. Since the real estate bubble burst three years ago and the crisis erupted, young people, once again, are the ones suffering the most.

In other parts of Europe, the situation among young people is not nearly as desperate as it is in Spain, Portugal or Greece. Still, many can identify with their frustration -- and offshoots of the protests are gradually reaching other European cities. Young people, albeit only a few hundred, have taken to the streets in Hamburg, Vienna and Rome.

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.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



CLASS WAR REPORTS



Desperate Man Robs Bank For One Dollar In Order To Go To Jail To Get Health Coverage: “Now He Hopes To Be Booked As A Felon And Held In Prison Where He Can Be Treated For Several Physical Afflictions”

He has a lot to say on the subject of socialized medical care. He suspects he wouldn't be talking to a reporter through a metal screen wearing an orange jumpsuit if such an option were available in the U.S.

June 16, 2011 by Diane Turbyfill, Gaston Gazette

James Richard Verone woke up June 9 with a sense of anticipation.

He took a shower.

Ironed his shirt.

Hailed a cab.

Then robbed a bank.

He wasn't especially nervous. If anything, Verone said he was excited to finally execute his plan to gain access to free medical care.

"I prepared myself for this," Verone said from behind a thick glass window in the Gaston County Jail Thursday morning.

Verone spoke calmly about the road that led him to a jail cell he shares with a young man arrested for stealing computers.

The 59-year-old man apologized for squinting. He hadn't gotten his eyeglasses returned to him since being arrested a week ago.

He smiled from the other side of the glass, sometimes gesturing with his hands. A plastic, red bracelet with his mug shot clung to his left wrist.

Until last week Verone had never been in trouble with the law.

Now he hopes to be booked as a felon and held in prison where he can be treated for several physical afflictions.

Verone worked for Coca-Cola for 17 years. He prided himself on keeping his nose to the grindstone. Don't make enemies. Sell the product. Make your deliveries and stick to your schedule.

When his career as a cola delivery man ended some three years ago, Verone was knocked out of his comfort zone.

He hopped back in the saddle driving a truck. But that employment didn't have near the longevity, and Verone found himself jobless.

He lived off of savings and sought a part-time job.

Not his first choice, Verone became a convenience store clerk. But the bending, standing and lifting were too much for him. The Gastonia man's back ached; problems with his left foot caused him to limp. His knuckles swelled from arthritis, and carpal tunnel syndrome made daily tasks difficult.

Then he noticed a protrusion on his chest.

Strapped for cash, Verone looked into filing for disability. He applied for early Social Security.

The only thing Verone qualified for was food stamps. The extra money helped, but he felt desperate.

He needed to get medical attention, and he refused to be a burden on his sister and brothers.

“The pain was beyond the tolerance that I could accept,” he said. “I kind of hit a brick wall with everything.”

A couple of months ago Verone started weighing his options.

He considered turning to a homeless shelter and seeking medical help through charitable organizations.

Then he had another idea: commit a crime and get set up with a place to stay, food and doctors.

He started planning.

As his bank account depleted and the day of execution got closer, Verone sold and donated his furniture. He paid his last month’s rent and gave his notice.

He moved into the Hampton Inn for the last couple of days. Then on June 9 he followed his typical morning routine of getting ready for the day.

He took a cab down New Hope Road and picked a bank at random — RBC Bank.

Verone didn’t want to scare anyone. He executed the robbery the most passive way he knew how.

He handed the teller a note demanding one dollar, and medical attention.

“I didn’t have any fears,” said Verone. “I told the teller that I would sit over here and wait for police.”

The teller, however, did have some fears even though Verone never showed a weapon.

Her blood pressure shot up and once Verone was handcuffed by police, the teller was taken to Gaston Memorial Hospital to be checked out.

Verone said he was sorry for causing the woman any pain.

Verone says he’s not a political man.

But he has a lot to say on the subject of socialized medical care. He suspects he wouldn’t be talking to a reporter through a metal screen wearing an orange jumpsuit if such an option were available in the U.S.

“If you don’t have your health you don’t have anything,” said Verone.

The man has high hopes with his recent incarceration.

He has seen several nurses and has an appointment with a doctor Friday.

The ideal scenario would include back and foot surgery and a diagnosis and treatment of the protrusion on his chest, he said. He would serve a few years in prison and get out in time to collect Social Security and move to the beach.

Verone expected to be charged with bank robbery.

Because he only demanded \$1, he was charged with larceny from a person. Still a felony, the count doesn't carry as much jail time as bank robbery.

The bearded, gray-haired man plans to represent himself in court. He's trying not to get too confident about his knowledge of the legal system. He just wants to prepare a statement for the judge and then take whatever active sentence he is given.

Verone is considering an ultimatum if the penalty isn't great enough, he said.

The crime will happen again.

The day Verone set out to commit his first felony, he mailed a letter to The Gazette.

He listed the return address as the Gaston County Jail.

"When you receive this a bank robbery will have been committed by me. This robbery is being committed by me for one dollar," he wrote. "I am of sound mind but not so much sound body."

Verone wanted to talk to a reporter to make sure people knew why he turned to crime. He figured he had nothing to lose.

"I knew that a felony would not hurt me. I cannot work anymore," he said. "That felony is going to hurt my reputation."

Verone has been in jail for a week.

His \$100,000 bond has been reduced to \$2,000.

He doesn't intend to pay it. His residence is now the Gaston County Jail.

He goes to breakfast and lunch each day but skips dinner. Dinner means nearly four hours in the general jail population, and Verone said he likes to minimize contact with other inmates.

"I stay very quiet," he said.

Verone said he hears the other men talk about the revolving door that jail has become for them.

He hopes he doesn't join the ranks of the repeat offender.

But today, he has no regrets about the robbery or where it landed him.

"If I had not exercised all the alternatives I would be sitting here saying, 'Man I feel bad about it,'" he said.

But Verone said he thinks he made the right choice for his situation.

"I picked jail."

Bank Of America Gets Pad Locked After Homeowner Forecloses On It: "After More Than 5 Months Of The Judge's Ruling, The Bank Still Hadn't Paid Legal Fees"

After more than 5 months of the judge's ruling, the bank still hadn't paid the legal fees, and the homeowner's attorney did exactly what the bank tried to do to the homeowners. He seized the bank's assets.

Jun 5, 2011 Written by Kelly Heffernan-Tabor; CBS News / WINK

Collier County, Florida -- Have you heard the one about a homeowner foreclosing on a bank?

Well, it has happened in Florida and involves a North Carolina based bank.

Instead of Bank of America foreclosing on some Florida homeowner, the homeowners had sheriff's deputies foreclose on the bank.

It started five months ago when Bank of America filed foreclosure papers on the home of a couple, who didn't owe a dime on their home.

The couple said they paid cash for the house.

The case went to court and the homeowners were able to prove they didn't owe Bank of America anything on the house. In fact, it was proven that the couple never even had a mortgage bill to pay.

A Collier County Judge agreed and after the hearing, Bank of America was ordered, by the court to pay the legal fees of the homeowners', Maurenn Nyerger's and her husband.

The Judge said the bank wrongfully tried to foreclose on the Nyerger's' house.

So, how did it end with bank being foreclosed on?

After more than 5 months of the judge's ruling, the bank still hadn't paid the legal fees, and the homeowner's attorney did exactly what the bank tried to do to the homeowners. He seized the bank's assets.

"They've ignored our calls, ignored our letters, legally this is the next step to get my clients compensated, " attorney Todd Allen told CBS.

Sheriff's deputies, movers, and the Nyerger's attorney went to the bank and foreclosed on it.

The attorney gave instructions to remove desks, computers, copiers, filing cabinets and any cash in the teller's drawers.

After about an hour of being locked out of the bank, the bank manager handed the attorney a check for the legal fees.

"As a foreclosure defense attorney this is sweet justice" says Allen.

Allen says this is something that he sees often in court, banks making errors because they didn't investigate the foreclosure and it becomes a lengthy and expensive battle for the homeowner.

Vietnam GI: Reprints Available



Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War

Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command.

The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.

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All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces organizing to resist today's Imperial wars.

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/)

Military Resistance www.militaryproject.org

*This is how Obama brings the troops home,
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE.*



*Military Resistance is a near-daily news bulletin for service members
www.militaryproject.org*

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