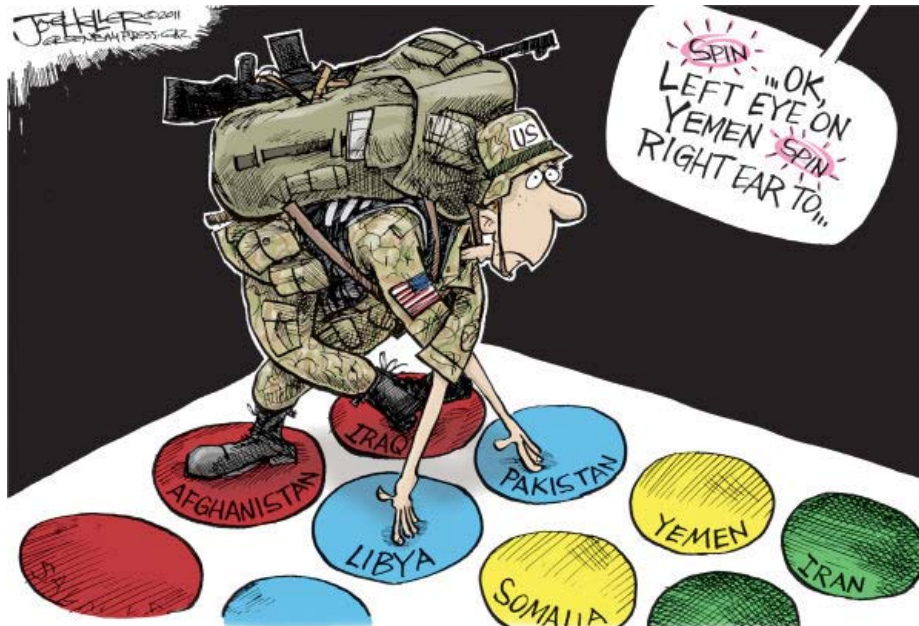


Military Resistance 9G11



“Reservists In Iraq Have Signed A Complaint Accusing The Army Of Mistreatment And Discrimination During The Months They Were Preparing For War”

“A ‘Lockdown’ Confinement To Base”

“The Request For An Inquiry By Congress Was Signed By 178 Soldiers Or Nearly Half Of The Battalion, Including Company Commanders”

7.14.11 By Gregg Zoroya, USA TODAY [Excerpts]

Nearly 200 Reservists in Iraq have signed a complaint accusing the Army of mistreatment and discrimination during the months they were preparing for war.

The soldiers say their movements and freedoms were severely restricted during a four-month training before deployment, describing it as virtually a "lockdown" confinement to base.

The soldiers are with a Kentucky-based attack helicopter battalion — nicknamed "The Flying Tigers" — that went to Iraq in January. The request for an inquiry by Congress was signed by 178 soldiers or nearly half of the battalion, including company commanders.

No action has been taken on the petition, filed April 1.

"Army Reserve soldiers love the Army, they love their jobs and they love their country," the complaint says. "They also understand that service is voluntary, and if not shown the respect and courtesy accorded their active-duty brethren, they will no longer be willing to make the personal, family and civilian-life sacrifices required."

Army Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, commander of all Reserve forces, says he is sensitive to troop concerns about restrictions during training such as being confined to base and being barred from driving civilian cars, wearing civilian clothing or drinking alcohol.

The complaint was written by Capt. Brad Docimo, an operations officer with the battalion, stationed at Camp Taji in Iraq. Home on leave, he declined to comment.

The complaint was sent to Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. McConnell "takes these allegations very seriously," says his spokesman, Robert Steurer.

The charges echo an age-old grievance by reservists and National Guard troops that when called to war, they are treated differently than full-time Army soldiers.

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Southern Iraq

7.16.11 AP

The U.S. military says an American soldier has been killed while conducting military operations in southern Iraq.

The military gave no further details in a statement released late Friday, and the name of the dead service member is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The death brings to 4,473 the number of American troops who have died in Iraq since the war started in 2003. That's according to an Associated Press count.

It is also the fourth U.S. military fatality this month.

Resistance Action

July 10, 2011 Xinhua & BBC & 7.16.11 AP

A roadside bomb went off in Afghanistan's western Badghis province Sunday morning, killing the administrative chief of Muqur district.

A bomb was placed in a roadside and detonated by a remote control device at around 08:00 a.m. local time Sunday when the motorcade of Muqur district chief was traveling to provincial capital Qala-e-Naw. Muqur District Chief Mohammad Daud was killed and seven others including five police and two civilians were injured.

In Kandahar city, a roadside bomb struck a police vehicle, killing three officers and wounding three other officers, Kandahar provincial police chief Abdul Raziq said.

Insurgents killed at least six Afghan soldiers in an ambush on an army patrol in western Afghanistan, the Defense Ministry said Saturday. The militants attacked the patrol Friday afternoon in Bala Buluk district of Farah province, said Mohammad Zahir Azimi, a spokesman for the Afghan Defense Ministry. He said six soldiers were killed and 10 others wounded in the gunbattle.

<p>IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATIONS</p>
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AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Afghan Army Soldier Kills Foreign Service Member In Helmand: Nationality Not Announced

Jul 16 Reuters

An Afghan army soldier killed at least one foreign soldier in southern Helmand province on Saturday, a senior police source said.

The latest in a series of "rogue" shootings by members of the country's security forces occurred barely 25 km (15 miles) from the city of Lashkar Gah, where this week security control will be handed to Afghan forces.

It is one of seven places chosen for the first phase of a years-long transfer due to be completed only by the end of 2014.

"The shooting happened during a joint security patrol ... he ran away after," said the senior police detective, who asked not to be named as he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Taliban spokesman Qari Mohammad Yousuf said an ANA (Afghan National Army) soldier surrendered to the Taliban after killing five foreign soldiers outside Lashkar Gah this morning.

"He wasn't one of us, he asked for protection and we agreed," Yousuf told Reuters by phone from an undisclosed location.

U.S. and NATO forces are ramping up efforts to train the Afghan army and police for the gradual transition.

Highlighting the difficulty of that task, however, have been a series of incidents over the past 18 months where Afghan police and soldiers, or insurgents who have infiltrated security forces, have turned their weapons on their mentors.

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

July 15, 2011 AP

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

Esplosione Deceduto Un Militare Italiano

12 luglio 2011 Ministero della Difesa

This morning at about 3 km west of Forward Operating Base "Lavaredo" in the district of Bakwa (Farah Province) an Italian soldier died in the explosion of a bomb.

In the blast, whose nature is being ascertained, died Corporal Major Roberto Marchini Chosen Viterbo, belonging to 'genius pioneers 8 Regiment Folgore paratroopers of Legnago (VR), born in 1983.

French Marine Killed In Alasay

14 juillet 2011 Zone Militaire

The French special forces soldier killed in a clash against insurgents in the valley of Alasay in Kapisa (Afghanistan), the July 14, is second master Benjamin Bourdet, Commando Jaubert, based in Lorient.

Born in January 1981 in Cherbourg, Benjamin Bourdet is committed to the Navy in 2003 and chose the specialty of marines.

After receiving his certificate of competency technique, he is assigned to group of marines in Brest. Because of his military and human qualities, he soon becomes the team leader. Between 2004 and 2007, he made four missions in New Caledonia.

Promoted Petty Officer, 1 September 2007, he was assigned to the marines company of Long Island, the basis of the nuclear submarine ballistic missile (SSBN), the cornerstones of the ocean component of deterrence French nuclear. A few months later, and after passing the selection to become a marine commando, he received his green beret.

For example, in May 2008, he joined the commando Jaubert, in Lorient. With this unit, it is projected on two occasions in Djibouti and participates in the first deployment of embedded protection teams (EPA) in the Indian Ocean as part of the fight against maritime piracy.

Marksman, with a "wholeness" and a sense of camaraderie developed, enthusiastic, the second master Bourdet was deployed to Afghanistan for the first time. He held the gold

medal of National Defence and the silver medal of National Defence, staples Marines and warships.

Constable Alexander Biune From Jutland Dragoon Regiment In Holstebro Sunday Was Killed In Helmand Afghanistan

11-07-2011 Hærens Operative Kommando [Denmark]

Constable Alexander Biune was killed Sunday morning by an explosion in Helmand.

Alexander Biune started in defending the first February 2010 by the first Company, 2nd training battalion of the Regiment in Slagelse.

On 29 May 2010 Alexander continued his education at the third Squadron, 2nd training battalion at Jutland Dragoon Regiment in Holstebro.

Alexander was member the Danish Battlegroup in Helmand in Charlie Company's 3rd division, second group.

Constable Alexander Biune was 23 years.

He is survived by his parents, girlfriend and two younger siblings.

Slain Marine Sergeant Honored At Burial

July 08, 2011 By Robert Nolin, Sun Sentinel

Leaden skies cast an appropriately somber backdrop Friday for the burial of a young Oakland Park Marine who lost his life in Afghanistan.

More than 100 black-clad civilians, uniformed military personnel and patriotically adorned bikers gathered at the South Florida National Cemetery west of Lake Worth to honor Sgt. Marlon E. Myrie, 25, who died June 25 of wounds suffered in combat in Helmand province.

In an understated ceremony, white-gloved Marine honor guards wheeled Myrie's flag-draped coffin in solemn cadence past a score of flags to a shelter in the region's only military cemetery.

With practiced hands they removed the flag from the silver casket as seven riflemen fired three volleys whose shots crackled in the humid air.

Next to the coffin stood Myrie's gravestone. "Our Hero, a Loving Husband, Dad and Son" read the simple inscription.

A lone Marine played taps. Standing in mute witness were red-clad members of the Marine Corps League and dozens of bikers bedecked in patriotic patches representing three groups — the Leathernecks, the Fort Lauderdale Harley Owners Group and Patriot Guard Riders.

Three generations of Myrie's family, mother Yvette, wife Maria and 3-year-old son Kareem sat before the polished coffin. The women, who declined interviews, were stoic. The boy, nestled on his grandmother's lap, gazed about wide eyed, finger in mouth.

"On behalf of the president and a grateful nation" the honor guard presented the flag from Myrie's coffin, precisely folded into a triangle, white stars against blue background, to his widow.

Rick Braswell, chaplain for the Broward Sheriff's Office, offered a simple prayer: "Thank you for this Marine, for the sacrifice he made for our country and our freedom." Alan Cole of West Palm Beach, a member of the Patriot Guard Riders, knelt before Maria Myrie to give her a special coin necklace inscribed with the bywords of his organization: "Standing for those who stood for us."

Myrie was an anti-tank missileman based in Camp Lejeune, N.C., and assigned to 2nd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force. He joined the Marine Corps in 2004 and was promoted to sergeant in 2010 after two tours in Iraq. In January he was deployed to Afghanistan.

Among Myrie's citations were two Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Service Medal and campaign medals from Iraq and Afghanistan. He was awarded the Purple Heart upon his death.

After the brief ceremony, several friends and family members, some sobbing, paused to touch Myrie's casket in silent farewell before filing out.

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

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

**Avondale Mother Of Soldier Killed In
Afghanistan Said Her Son Was Just A
Typical Kid**



Donald Stacy was killed while serving in Afghanistan. Photographer: Department of Defense

06/30/2011 By: MaryEllen Resendez, ABC15

AVONDALE, AZ - The mother of an Avondale soldier killed in Afghanistan this week says her son loved serving his country.

Twenty-three-year-old Staff Sgt. Donald V. Stacy died June 28 in Kandahar after insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

His mother, Felicia Escobedo, said she was told Tuesday that her son was killed.

"I was leaving on a trip when two men in full uniform pulled up, I instantly knew this wasn't good," she told ABC15.

Stacy was on his 3rd deployment and was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division.

"He loved serving, but when he came home he left that world behind and was just your typical skater kid in Dickie shorts," Escobedo said.

"SSG Stacy's devotion to his fellow Paratroopers, and his dedication to mission accomplishment set him apart from his peers," Capt. Jeff Wismann, 1st battalion commander said in a news release. "He was both a phenomenal leader and a genuine friend and he will truly be missed."

Even though only 23, Stacy already had earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star along with three Army commendations, two Army achievements and an array of other medals.

"I didn't even know he had so many medals, he kept quiet about it," said his mother.

Escobedo added that her son joined the Army in 2005 after graduating from Agua Fria High School.

He was her only child.

Friends, Family Mourn Fallen Bossier City Soldier



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Michael J. Garcia, 27, was killed in Afghanistan on Monday. He was from Bossier City and was stationed out of Fort Polk. / Special to The Times

Jul. 7, 2011 Shreveport Times

Staff Sgt. Michael J. Garcia died doing what he loved, friends say.

Garcia, 27, of Bossier City, died on Independence Day of injuries suffered during an attack on his unit in Afghanistan. He was less than a month away from his 28th birthday.

He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from Bossier High School in 2001.

"He loved what he did, he absolutely loved what he did," said his girlfriend, Shelby Martinez, who said he was "the happiest he ever was in his whole life deployed in Afghanistan."

Precise and methodical, he always arranged to have birthday and holiday presents sent to family and friends even while deployed, and even left instructions with one of his sisters as to what would need to be done if he died, Martinez said.

"Any time I brought it up, he said 'You can't think about that,'" she said.

Garcia worked in Explosive Ordnance Disposal, one of the most dangerous and demanding jobs in the military. He served with the 705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, which supported the 2/4 Infantry Battalion's Task Force Warrior, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, out of Fort Polk.

"His best friend, who did the same thing he did, was killed in February," Martinez said.

She said she asked him how he dealt with it. "He was sad about a week, and angry and processed it and just lives with the happy memory of what they had, and that's what I'm trying to do."

Neighbor Cassie Eguia attended Plantation Park Elementary, Rusheon Middle and Bossier High schools with Garcia.

"You always knew that he had your back, he was going to be there," she said. "No matter what you asked of him, he was going to do whatever he could do to make that happen. You never had to worry that he was going to judge you. He was there, no matter what."

Christine Geisler Thomas of Shreveport, who also knew Garcia since high school and has set a Facebook page in his honor, agreed. "He was amazing," Thomas said. "There's no other way to describe Michael."

In everyday life, Garcia was "an all-around nice guy," she said. "He was handsome, he made you laugh. He knew how to make somebody's day. I keep thinking, 'Of all the people, why him?'" Thomas said.

"He was a family man," Eguia said. "He was a man that could love his mom, open his Bible and be a friend."

Martinez summed it up.

"He loved EOD, loved blowing stuff up, loved saving people," she said. "He has always been a hero and treated me like a princess. It's a huge loss for everyone."

This week, his buddies in Afghanistan recalled his impact on the unit.

"When something went wrong or didn't seem to work out he never got rattled or lost his temper, he simply fixed it and moved on," said Sgt. 1st Class Willis Fontenot, a 705th EOD noncommissioned officer from Mamou.

Garcia had been with 705th EOD longer than any soldier currently assigned, fellow soldiers said.

Capt. Aaron Teller, commander of 705th, said its soldiers looked up to Garcia because of his tenure and his extensive EOD knowledge base.

"You could always count on his rock-solid judgment and his common-sense approach to all challenges," Teller said. "Staff Sergeant Garcia simply drove on to get the mission done."

Garcia's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star with Valor device and a second award of that medal; three Purple Hearts; the NATO Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; three awards of the Army Achievement Medal; and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Family members are in Delaware arranging for return of his remains to Louisiana for burial.

Mourners At Memorial Service For Afghan Drug Lord Blown Up: “Visiting Cabinet Ministers From The Capital Kabul Had To Be Airlifted To Safety”

July 15, 2011 AFP & DPA

At least four people were killed in a bomb attack on a mosque in Kandahar during a service for the slain brother of Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Thursday, officials said.

The explosion took place 100 metres from the president's house in the city located in the south of the country.

The murder of the presidency's half-brother, who had been accused of corruption and involvement in drug trade, has given rise to fears of a backlash and is seen as a blow to stability in the strategic southern province, which is also the heartland of the decades-long Taliban insurgency.

Local officials said 15 people on Thursday were wounded when the attacker blew himself up in a mosque in the southern city of Kandahar, where visiting cabinet ministers from the capital Kabul had to be airlifted to safety.

The bombing spotlights renewed instability in Kandahar, one of Afghanistan's bloodiest battlegrounds and the birthplace of the Taliban, in the power vacuum created by the death of powerbroker Ahmed Wali Karzai.

The provincial authority and a national lawmaker said a number of high-ranking government officials had been present but were unhurt.

"We'd left the mosque to go to a hall nearby for lunch. The government delegation left 10 minutes before the explosion," said lawmaker Kamal Naser.

Kandahar senator Bismullah Afghan, however, was wounded in the shoulder, his brother said.

An AFP reporter saw the government delegation rapidly evacuated after the attack in two Afghan army helicopters.

The head of the religious council for the southern province of Kandahar, Hikmatullah Hikmat, was among those killed, the interior ministry said.

"The bombing was in a corner of the mosque. It's a big mosque," said ministry spokesman Siddiq Siddiqi.

He confirmed it had been the venue for a service in memory of Wali Karzai, who was shot dead on Tuesday.

A second explosion of a remotely-detonated bomb planted nearby killed one other civilian and injured two, said provincial police chief Abdul Razeq.

A lawmaker who was at the service said the government delegation included the ministers of defence, justice and public works, as well as deputy ministers of various ministries and 15 MPs.

Wali Karzai was buried by the president at a funeral which drew thousands of mourners in Kandahar on Wednesday, after he was shot dead in his study by a close friend and the commander of his personal protection force.

Karzai on Thursday ordered an immediate investigation into claims from the local government in the eastern province of Khost, that a NATO raid killed six civilians, including an 11-year-old girl.

Hey Everybody, Remember That Giant U.S. Victory In Marjah Last Year?

**The One The Pentagon Bragged And
Bragged And Bragged About?
The One The Generals Said Was A
“Turning Point” In The War?**

Jul. 14 The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The number of Afghan civilians killed in war-related violence rose 15 per cent in the first half of this year, according to a UN report released Thursday that offered grim statistics about the human toll of increased fighting.

Fighting always picks up in the spring after the opium poppy crop is harvested in the south and the snow melts elsewhere in the mountainous country, allowing insurgents to move more freely.

"They are caught in the middle -- caught between two sides and have little places of refuge and little protection," Georgette Gagnon, director of human rights at the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, told reporters.

She read an account from a resident of Marjah, a district in Helmand province, a dangerous region in the south that has seen a heavy share of the fighting.

"The Taliban come to any house they please by force," the man told the UN.

He said Taliban fighters fire from civilian homes, then the U.S.-led coalition and Afghan security forces return fire.

"If I tell the Taliban not to enter, the Taliban will kill me. So what is the answer? ... The people cannot live like this."

**At The Parliament, “Afghan
Officials Vacillated Between
Resignation And Hysteria”
“A Sign Of The Taliban’s Growing
Ability To Infiltrate The Afghan
Security Establishment”
“There Is No Measure To Stop This”
“Members Of The Ruling Class Are
Being Forced To Look To Their Inner
Circles For Possible Infiltrators”**

July 13 By Kevin Sieff, Washington Post [Excerpts]

KABUL — Among those offering eulogies for Ahmed Wali Karzai on Wednesday, Fauzia Kofi kept her condolences brief, preoccupied by a thought that had kept her awake the previous night.

"If they can kill Ahmed Wali, then they can kill any of us," said Kofi, a member of Afghanistan's parliament. "What does this mean for our security?"

Kofi frantically rearranged her 10-member security detail Wednesday, replacing several bodyguards she considered questionable.

“The longer they’re here,” she said, “the more time the Taliban has to recruit them.”

Afghanistan has long been a land of shifting alliances and uncertain loyalties, but increasingly, members of the ruling class are being forced to look to their inner circles for possible infiltrators.

In the past several months, Gen. Mohammad Daud Daud, northern Afghanistan’s top police commander; Gen. Khan Mohammad Mujahid, the police chief of the southern province of Kandahar; and Gen. Abdul Rahman Sayedkhili, the police chief of the northern province of Kunduz, were killed in attacks for which the Taliban has taken credit.

Many say the targeted attacks, including the one Tuesday on the president’s powerful and divisive half brother, were inside jobs — a sign of the Taliban’s growing ability to infiltrate the Afghan security establishment.

“The enemy has changed its tactic and has focused now on infiltration, and there is no measure to stop this,” said a top Afghan security official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

In recent months, insurgents who have penetrated Afghan police and military ranks have also targeted Americans, a strategy that has created friction between U.S. troops and the Afghan security forces they are training.

Many Afghan officials, meanwhile, have survived close calls. In June, not long after Samiullah Qatra was appointed Sayedkhili’s successor in Kunduz, he was nearly killed in a suicide attack, too.

Four of Qatra’s bodyguards were killed.

At the parliament, protected by a smattering of run-down checkpoints and dysfunctional metal detectors, Afghan officials vacillated between resignation and hysteria.

Some refused to make any changes to their security details. Others met with guards to demand swift improvements and heightened protection.

The parliament’s security unit advised politicians to avoid gathering in large numbers except for scheduled meetings.

Kofi was promised that the unit would keep her abreast of possible threats.

Sitting in a meeting room outside the parliament’s main chamber, she sighed. The government had warned her last month that she was on a list of Taliban targets, Kofi said.

“I’m not safe even in my bedroom,” she said.

Among politicians here, there’s little uniformity when it comes to personal security.

Kofi, like most members of parliament, uses state-provided bodyguards, recruited by a central government she doesn't much trust.

The Interior Ministry uses the same vetting process for high-level bodyguards as the nation's police force — an organization that Taliban members have repeatedly infiltrated in recent months.

But wealthy, well-connected politicians fund their own security details, which often amount to small-scale militias.

Abdul Zahir Qadir, the son of a former Afghan vice president, keeps a staff of 20 military-trained bodyguards.

"I've known them my whole life," he said. "Their fathers were my father's bodyguards. Their grandfathers were my grandfather's bodyguards."

Qadir sat in his air-conditioned office, wearing a watch speckled with diamonds under a beige shalwar kameez. In the past decade, there have been three attempts on his life. He smiles as he tells the stories, proud of having fooled death.

His father, Abdul Qadir, was not so lucky. In 2002, he was shot 35 times as he stepped out of his car in Kabul. He had decided that morning not to bring bodyguards.

"We must always be ready for death," Qadir said. As if on cue, someone knocked loudly at his door. Qadir flinched, and then laughed.

Other prominent Afghans have come to rely on private security companies that boast vetting processes more stringent than the government's.

Kabul-based White Eagle Security coordinates with tribal leaders, police chiefs and provincial officials before hiring its guards.

That system has been largely effective, but in Afghanistan, said Ian Hall, a White Eagle official, no vetting process is without problems.

"In the current situation, you can't trust anyone," he said.

GOT AN OPINION?

Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send to contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request identification published.

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

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

**FUTILE EXERCISE:
ONLY MILLIONS MORE TO GO:
ALL HOME NOW!**



A U.S. Marine of Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines walks with a makeshift tool searching for IEDs during a patrol outside Camp Gorgak, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, June 30, 2011. REUTERS/Shamil Zhumatov



U.S. Marines of Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines detain a suspected Afghan man in the Garsmir district of Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, July 7, 2011. REUTERS/Shamil Zhumatov

MILITARY NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



The remains of Army Pfc. Brian J. Backus of Saginaw Township, Mich., upon arrival at Dover Air Force Base, Del., June 21, 2011. Backus died when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire in Kandahar province. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)

“Thirteen Inmates At The U.S. Disciplinary Barracks At Fort Leavenworth Face Charges For Their Roles In A 2010 Uprising”

Jul 13, 2011 By John Milburn - The Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — Thirteen inmates at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth face charges for their roles in a 2010 uprising in the prison's special housing unit.

Army spokesman Jeff Wingo said Wednesday the incident occurred last Aug. 12 when two inmates in the maximum security wing who were out of their cells for recreation overpowered a corrections officer.

The men then took the keys and unlocked the cells of 11 other inmates. The rest of the 450-inmate prison was locked down without incident while guards regained control of the unit.

“They didn’t get out of the unit, but they did take control,” Wingo said. “All 13 inmates then worked collectively to maintain control of the unit for several hours.”

The unit was one of seven special housing units, including one where inmates on death row are kept. Wingo said none of the death row inmates were involved in the incident in question.

The inmates fashioned weapons from wooden brooms and metal table legs, flooded the housing unit and barricaded the doors during the standoff. An Army Criminal Investigation Command team and barracks staff tried to negotiate the release of the guard, but efforts failed.

Wingo said the disturbance ended shortly after 10 p.m. when a special reaction team entered the special housing unit, subdued the inmates and rescued the corrections officer. The team used pepper spray and rubber bullets to subdue the inmates, several of whom were treated for minor injuries.

The corrections officer and one member of the response team who suffered non-life threatening injuries were treated and released from nearby hospitals.

The inmates involved face a several charges, including mutiny and kidnapping. Four of the inmates have completed general courts martial resulting in sentences of 40 months to 15 years, which will be served consecutively with their current sentences.

There were two large uprisings at the old military prison at Fort Leavenworth in the 1990s. The first in 1992 involved several hundred inmates who refused to return to their cells after changes in regulations regarding smoking, clemency and movies.

In 1996, four guards and three inmates were injured in a disturbance involving between 35 and 50 inmates. One guard was taken hostage after he confronted an inmate for violating the prison dress code by wearing a T-shirt on his head.

The new prison, with space for 515 beds, opened in September 2002. It is adjacent to the newly built Joint Regional Confinement Facility that opened in 2010.

That prison is where suspected WikiLeaks suspect Pfc. Bradley Manning is being held while his case is pending in military court. Manning is suspected of supplying classified documents to the WikiLeaks website.

**“A Federal Judge Has Said That
‘Injustice’ Was Done To A Former
Navy Officer Who Was Wrongly**

Convicted With The Help Of A Discredited Military Lab Analyst” “He Also Concluded That The Court Can't Do Anything About It”

July 13, 2011 By Michael Doyle and Marisa Taylor, McClatchy Newspapers [Excerpts]

WASHINGTON — A federal judge has said that "injustice" was done to a former Navy officer who was wrongly convicted with the help of a discredited military lab analyst, but he also concluded that the court can't do anything about it.

In a sobering new ruling, a judge concluded that the Navy doesn't owe back pay to former Lt. Roger House even though House felt squeezed out of the service after a court-martial that included "faulty and perhaps fraudulent" evidence.

"Some might view this seeming incongruency as a blunt metaphor for the limitations of the law," U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judge Francis M. Allegra conceded.

Nonetheless, Allegra sided with the Pentagon in reasoning that House's 2003 Navy resignation meant he wasn't owed a promotion or the back pay he would have received as a lieutenant commander. Sounding regretful, Allegra said he was "not free" to rule otherwise, given judicial precedent.

"Undoubtedly, the result here will leave (House) dissatisfied," Allegra said in his decision last Friday. "His reputation has largely been restored. The emoluments associated therewith have not."

The evidence deployed against House in his 2002 court-martial was processed by a subsequently discredited Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory analyst named Phillip Mills. House and a fellow Navy lieutenant were exonerated when Mills' DNA examination results later were shown to be wrong.

"But for the DNA evidence supplied by Mr. Mills, Lieutenant House would not have been court-martialed," Allegra suggested.

On Thursday, the Defense Department's deputy inspector general, Randolph Stone, is scheduled to visit the Atlanta-area facility for a half-day tour.

In part, officials are interested in why some defendants apparently weren't properly informed of exculpatory evidence from the crime lab.

Mills resigned from the military crime lab in 2005, shortly before he was to be fired for making a false statement in another case. A three-year, \$1.4 million investigation subsequently raised serious questions about Mills' work in general.

Lab officials disagreed with Mills' DNA results 55 percent of the time in cases they could retest. They also found errors in "thoroughness" in 13 percent of the Navy and Marine Corps cases that Mills handled.

Further investigation was frustrated, though, because law enforcement officials had destroyed evidence, which was routine, in 83 percent of Mills' cases before it could be retested.

Some defense attorneys didn't learn about the lab problems until later.

"For reasons unexplained, this exculpatory information was provided neither to plaintiff nor to his counsel at or around the time it was discovered," Allegra noted in House's case.

House had been a highly regarded officer, tapped as executive assistant to the Navy's surgeon general. His Navy career collapsed, though, after he and two other officers were charged with sexually assaulting a female sailor. The officers were acquitted of assault but convicted on lesser charges, including conduct unbecoming an officer.

Though a Navy board recommended retaining House, his superiors told him that his military career was finished. He subsequently resigned. After Mills' errors came to light several years later, the Navy corrected House's record and returned a \$1,000 fine.

House subsequently argued that if he hadn't been persuaded to resign, he would have been promoted to lieutenant commander. Allegra countered that although House's decision to resign was "understandable" under the circumstances, it was nonetheless a voluntary act that rendered him ineligible for back pay.

“Veterans Diagnosed With Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder And Other Mental Health Issues Often Face ‘Unconscionable’ Waits For Treatment That Leave Them At Risk Of Suicide”

“When He Tried To Reschedule An Appointment To Enable Him To Testify, He Was Told He Would Have To Wait Four Months For A New Date”

[Here it is again. Same old story. Used up, thrown away. To repeat for the 3,560th time, the enemy is not in Iraq or Afghanistan. Their citizens and U.S. troops have a common enemy. That common enemy owns and operates the Imperial government in Washington DC for their own profit. That common enemy started these wars of conquest on a platform of lies, because they couldn't tell the truth: U.S. Imperial wars are about making money for them, and nothing else. Payback is overdue. T]

July 14 By Steve Vogel, The Washington Post Company [Excerpts]

Veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues often face “unconscionable” waits for treatment that leave them at risk of suicide, according to testimony at a Senate hearing Thursday and new reports from the Department of Veterans Affairs inspector general.

Retired Army Spec. Daniel Williams, who suffered a traumatic brain injury in Iraq from a makeshift bomb that also left him with PTSD, told the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs Thursday that when he tried to reschedule an appointment to enable him to testify, he was told he would have to wait four months for a new date.

“I’m sorry not only do I have to go through this, but many of my fellow soldiers have to as well,” said Williams, who served with the 4th Infantry Division. He testified that he attempted suicide in 2004 after being unable to get psychiatric help but was saved when his gun misfired.

Williams, a resident of Homewood, Ala., described continued struggles battling red tape, waiting for appointments and trying to get attention at VA facilities. “It literally takes my wife nearly getting arrested by VA police,” he said.

VA’s Office of Inspector General reported this week that several VA mental health clinics in Atlanta were found to have unacceptably high patient wait times. Some patients on an electronic waiting list attempted suicide, were hospitalized or went to the emergency department, according to the report.

The report said that facility managers were aware of long wait lists for mental health care but were slow to respond to the problem.

The report noted that VA tracks only the time it takes for new patients to get their first appointment. “This is simply unacceptable and must change,” Murray said.

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.

ANNIVERSARIES

July 17, 1927: Dishonorable Anniversary: A Bloody Day In A 24 Year U.S. Occupation

After taking office on January 1, 1925, Solórzano requested that the United States delay the withdrawal of its troops from Nicaragua. Nicaragua and the United States agreed that United States troops would remain while United States military instructors helped build a national military force.

Carl Bunin Peace History July 16-22

In a significant early use of close air support, a U.S. Marine squadron of seven airplanes dive-bombed rebels and peasants surrounding Marines and Nicaraguan military (then under direct U.S. control) in Ocotal, Nicaragua, killing more than 100.

The rebels were opposed the presence of U.S. forces, essentially continuous since 1909.

United States Occupation 1909-33:

Countrystudies.us/nicaragua/15

United States interest in Nicaragua, which had waned during the last half of the 1800s because of isolationist sentiment following the United States Civil War (1861-65), grew again during the final years of the Zelaya administration.

Angered by the United States choice of Panama for the site of a transisthmian canal, President Zelaya made concessions to Germany and Japan for a competing canal across Nicaragua.

Relations with the United States deteriorated, and civil war erupted in October 1909, when anti-Zelaya liberals joined with a group of conservatives under Juan Estrada to overthrow the government.

The United States broke diplomatic relations with the Zelaya administration after two United States mercenaries serving with the rebels were captured and executed by government forces.

Soon thereafter, 400 United States marines landed on the Caribbean coast.

Weakened and pressured by both domestic and external forces, Zelaya resigned on December 17, 1909. His minister of foreign affairs, José Madriz, was appointed president by the Nicaraguan Congress. A liberal from León, Madriz was unable to restore order under continuing pressure from conservatives and the United States forces, and he resigned on August 20, 1910.

Conservative Estrada, governor of Nicaragua's easternmost department, assumed power after Madriz's resignation. The United States agreed to support Estrada, provided that a Constituent Assembly was elected to write a constitution. After agreeing with this stipulation, a coalition conservative-liberal regime, headed by Estrada, was recognized by the United States on January 1, 1911.

Political differences between the two parties soon surfaced, however, and minister of war General Luis Mena forced Estrada to resign. Estrada's vice president, the conservative Adolfo Díaz, then became president. In mid-1912 Mena persuaded a Constituent Assembly to name him successor to Díaz when Díaz's term expired in 1913.

When the United States refused to recognize the Constituent Assembly's decision, Mena rebelled against the Díaz government. A force led by liberal Benjamín Zelaydón quickly came to the aid of Mena.

Díaz, relying on what was becoming a time-honored tradition, requested assistance from the United States.

In August 1912, a force of 2,700 United States marines once landed again at the ports of Corinto and Bluefields. Mena fled the country, and Zelaydón was killed.

The United States kept a contingent force in Nicaragua almost continually from 1912 until 1933.

Although reduced to 100 in 1913, the contingent served as a reminder of the willingness of the United States to use force and its desire to keep conservative governments in power.

Under United States supervision, national elections were held in 1913, but the liberals refused to participate in the electoral process, and Adolfo Díaz was reelected to a full term. Foreign investment decreased during this period because of the high levels of violence and political instability.

Nicaragua and the United States signed but never ratified the Castell-Knox Treaty in 1914, giving the United States the right to intervene in Nicaragua to protect United States interest.

A modified version, the Chamorro-Bryan Treaty omitting the intervention clause, was finally ratified by the United States Senate in 1916.

This treaty gave the United States exclusive rights to build an interoceanic canal across Nicaragua. Because the United States had already built the Panama Canal, however, the terms of the Chamorro-Bryan Treaty served the primary purpose of securing United States interests against potential foreign countries--mainly Germany or Japan--building another canal in Central America.

The treaty also transformed Nicaragua into a near United States protectorate.

Collaboration with the United States allowed the conservatives to remain in power until 1925.

The liberals boycotted the 1916 election, and conservative Emiliano Chamorro was elected with no opposition.

The liberals did participate in the 1920 elections, but the backing of the United States and a fraudulent election assured the election of Emiliano Chamorro's uncle, Diego Manuel Chamorro.

A moderate conservative, Carlos Solórzano, was elected president in open elections in 1924, with liberal Juan Bautista Sacasa as his vice president.

After taking office on January 1, 1925, Solórzano requested that the United States delay the withdrawal of its troops from Nicaragua.

Nicaragua and the United States agreed that United States troops would remain while United States military instructors helped build a national military force.

In June, Solórzano's government contracted with retired United States Army Major Calvin B. Carter to establish and train the National Guard. The United States marines left Nicaragua in August 1925. However, President Solórzano, who had already purged the liberals from his coalition government, was subsequently forced out of power in November 1925 by a conservative group who proclaimed General Emiliano Chamorro (who had also served as president from 1917 to 1921), as president in January 1926.

Fearing a new round of conservative-liberal violence and worried that a revolution in Nicaragua might result in a leftist victory as happened a few years earlier in Mexico, the United States sent marines, who landed on the Caribbean coast in May 1926, ostensibly to protect United States citizens and property.

United States authorities in Nicaragua mediated a peace agreement between the liberals and the conservatives in October 1926. Chamorro resigned, and the Nicaraguan Congress elected Adolfo Díaz as president (Díaz had previously served as president, 1911-16). Violence resumed, however, when former vice president Sacasa returned from exile to claim his rights to the presidency.

In April 1927, the United States sent Henry L. Stimson to mediate the civil war. Once in Nicaragua, Stimson began conversations with President Díaz as well as with leaders from both political parties. Stimson's meetings with General José María Moncada, the leader of the liberal rebels, led to a peaceful solution of the crisis. On May 20, 1927, Moncada agreed to a plan in which both sides--the government and Moncada's liberal forces--would disarm. In addition, a nonpartisan military force would be established under United States supervision. This accord was known as the Pact of Espino Negro.

As part of the agreement, President Díaz would finish his term and United States forces would remain in Nicaragua to maintain order and supervise the 1928 elections.

A truce between the government and the rebels remained in effect and included the disarmament of both liberal rebels and government troops. Sacasa, who refused to sign the agreement, left the country.

United States forces took over the country's military functions, and strengthened the Nicaraguan National Guard.

Sandino Begins Nationalist Guerrilla War Against The U.S. Occupation

A rebel liberal group under the leadership of Augusto César Sandino also refused to sign the Pact of Espino Negro.

An illegitimate son of a wealthy landowner and a mestizo servant, Sandino had left his father's home early in his youth and traveled to Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico.

During his three-year stay in Tampico, Mexico, Sandino had acquired a strong sense of Nicaraguan nationalism and pride in his mestizo heritage.

At the urging of his father, Sandino had returned to Nicaragua in 1926 and settled in the department of Nueva Segovia, where he worked at a gold mine owned by a United States company.

Sandino, who lectured the mine workers about social inequalities and the need to change the political system, soon organized his own army, consisting mostly of peasants and workers, and joined the liberals fighting against the conservative regime of Chamorro.

Highly distrusted by Moncada, Sandino set up hit-and-run operations against conservative forces independently of Moncada's liberal army.

After the United States mediated the agreement between liberal forces and the conservative regime, Sandino, calling Moncada a traitor and denouncing United States intervention, reorganized his forces as the Army for the Defense of Nicaraguan Sovereignty (Ejército Defensor de la Soberanía de Nicaragua-EDSN).

Sandino then staged an independent guerrilla campaign against the government and United States forces.

Although Sandino's original intentions were to restore constitutional government under Sacasa, after the Pact of Espino Negro agreement his objective became the defense of Nicaraguan sovereignty against the United States.

Receiving his main support from the rural population, Sandino resumed his battle against United States troops.

At the height of his guerrilla campaign, Sandino claimed to have some 3,000 soldiers in his army, although official figures estimated the number at only 300.

Sandino's guerrilla war caused significant damage in the Caribbean coast and mining regions.

After debating whether to continue direct fighting against Sandino's forces, the United States opted to develop the nonpartisan Nicaraguan National Guard to contain internal violence. The National Guard would soon become the most important power in Nicaraguan politics.

The late 1920s and early 1930s saw the growing power of Anastasio "Tacho" Somoza García, a leader who would create a dynasty that ruled Nicaragua for four and a half decades.

Moncada won the 1928 presidential elections in one of the most honest elections ever held in Nicaragua. For the 1932 elections, the liberals nominated Juan Bautista Sacasa and the conservatives, Adolfo Díaz. Sacasa won the elections and was installed as president on January 2, 1933.

In the United States, popular opposition to the Nicaraguan intervention rose as United States casualty lists grew.

Anxious to withdraw from Nicaraguan politics, the United States turned over command of the National Guard to the Nicaraguan government, and United States marines left the country soon thereafter.

President Sacasa, under pressure from General Moncada, appointed Somoza García as chief director of the National Guard. Somoza García, a close friend of Moncada and nephew of President Sacasa, had supported the liberal revolt in 1926.

Somoza García also enjoyed support from the United States government because of his participation at the 1927 peace conference as one of Stimson's interpreters. Having attended school in Philadelphia and been trained by United States marines, Somoza García, who was fluent in English, had developed friends with military, economic, and political influence in the United States.

After United States troops left Nicaragua in January 1933, the Sacasa government and the National Guard still were threatened by Sandino's EDSN.

True to his promise to stop fighting after United States marines had left the country, Sandino agreed to discussions with Sacasa. In February 1934, these negotiations began.

During their meetings, Sacasa offered Sandino a general amnesty as well as land and safeguards for him and his guerrilla forces. However, Sandino, who regarded the National Guard as unconstitutional because of its ties to the United States military, insisted on the guard's dissolution.

His attitude made him very unpopular with Somoza Garcia and his guards.

Without consulting the president, Somoza Garcia gave orders for Sandino's assassination, hoping that this action would help him win the loyalty of senior guard officers. On February 21, 1934, while leaving the presidential palace after a dinner with President Sacasa, Sandino and two of his generals were arrested by National Guard officers acting under Somoza García's instructions.

They were then taken to the airfield, executed, and buried in unmarked graves.

Despite Sacasa's strong disapproval of Somoza García's action, the Nicaraguan president was too weak to contain the National Guard director.

After Sandino's execution, the National Guard launched a ruthless campaign against Sandino's supporters. In less than a month, Sandino's army was totally destroyed.

President Sacasa's popularity decreased as a result of his poor leadership and accusations of fraud in the 1934 congressional elections. Somoza García benefited from Sacasa's diminishing power, while at the same time he brought together the National Guard and the Liberal Party (Partido Liberal-PL) in order to win the presidential elections in 1936. Somoza García also cultivated support from former presidents Moncada and Chamorro while consolidating control within the Liberal Party.

Early in 1936, Somoza García openly confronted President Sacasa by using military force to displace local government officials loyal to the president and replacing them with close associates.

Somoza García's increasing military confrontation led to Sacasa's resignation on June 6, 1936. The Congress appointed Carlos Brenes Jarquín, a Somoza García associate, as interim president and postponed presidential elections until December. In November, Somoza García officially resigned as chief director of the National Guard, thus complying with constitutional requirements for eligibility to run for the presidency. The Liberal Nationalist Party (Partido Liberal Nacionalista--PLN) was established with support from a faction of the Conservative Party to support Somoza García's candidacy.

Somoza García was elected president in the December election by the remarkable margin of 107,201 votes to 108.

On January 1, 1937, Somoza García resumed control of the National Guard, combining the roles of president and chief director of the military.

Thus, Somoza García established a military dictatorship, in the shadows of democratic laws, that would last more than four decades.

MORE:

July 17, 1979: Honor Restored:

22 Years Later To The Day, Sandinistas Overthrow The Traitors So Beloved By The U.S. Empire

Carl Bunin Peace History July 16-22

Fighters of the Sandinista National Liberation Front overthrew the U.S.-supported dictatorial regime of Anastasio Somoza in the Central American republic of Nicaragua and forced him to flee the country.

The notorious and feared U.S.-trained National Guard crumbled and its surviving commanders negotiated a surrender, despite their superiority in armaments.

THE SANDINISTAS TAKE POWER

Countrystudies.us/nicaragua/15.htm [Excerpts]

The new government inherited a country in ruins, with a stagnant economy and a debt of about US\$1.6 billion.

An estimated 50,000 Nicaraguans were dead, 120,000 were exiles in neighboring countries, and 600,000 were homeless. Food and fuel supplies were exhausted, and international relief organizations were trying to deal with disease caused by lack of health supplies.

Yet the attitude of the vast majority of Nicaraguans toward the revolution was decidedly hopeful.

Most Nicaraguans saw the Sandinista victory as an opportunity to create a system free of the political, social, and economic inequalities of the almost universally hated Somoza regime.

One of the immediate goals of the new government was reconstruction of the national economy.

The junta appointed individuals from the private sector to head the government's economic team. They were responsible for renegotiating the foreign debt and channeling foreign economic aid through the state-owned International Reconstruction Fund (Fondo Internacional de Reconstrucción--FIR). The new government received bilateral and multinational financial assistance and also rescheduled the national foreign debt on advantageous terms.

Pledging food for the poor, the junta made restructuring the economy its highest priority.

At first the economy experienced positive growth, largely because of renewed inflow of foreign aid and reconstruction after the war.

The new government enacted the Agrarian Reform Law, beginning with the nationalization of all rural properties owned by the Somoza family or people associated with the Somozas, a total of 2,000 farms representing more than 20 percent of Nicaragua's cultivable land.

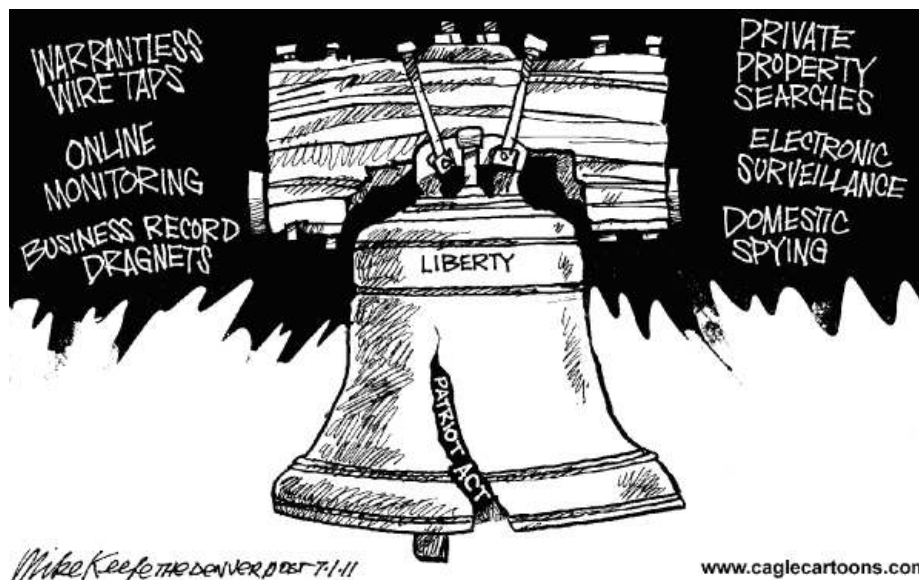
These farms became state property under the new Ministry of Agrarian Reform. Large agroexport farms not owned by the Somozas generally were not affected by the agrarian reform. Financial institutions, all in bankruptcy from the massive capital flight during the war, were also nationalized.

The second goal of the Sandinistas was a change in the old government's pattern of repression and brutality toward the general populace.

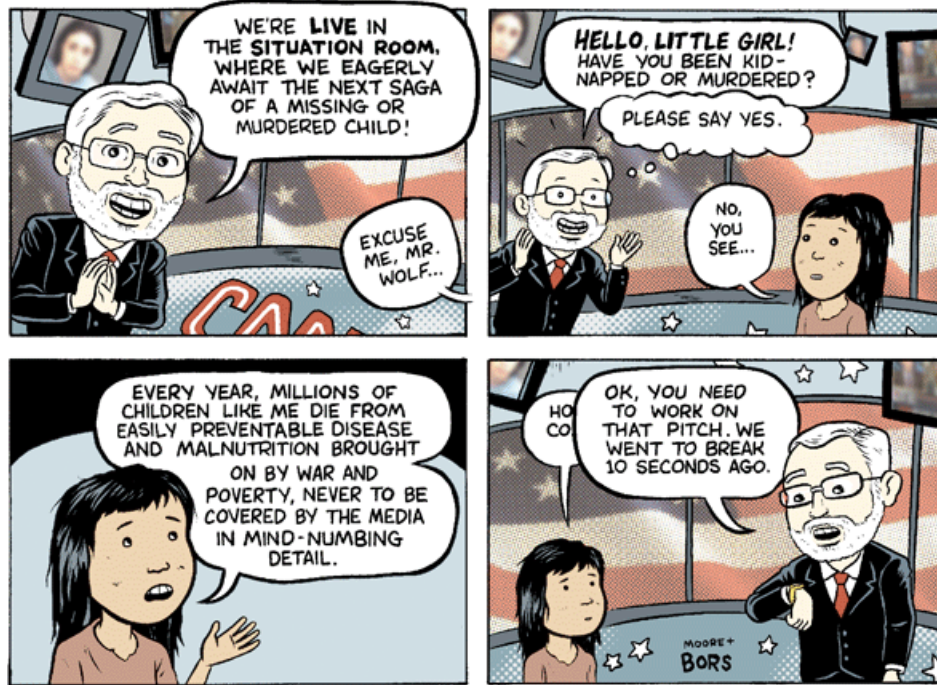
Many of the Sandinista leaders were victims of torture themselves, and the new minister of interior, Tomás Borge Martínez, tried to keep human rights violations low.

Most prisoners accused of injustices under the Somoza regime were given a trial, and the Ministry of Interior forbade cruelty to prisoners. In their first two years in power, Amnesty International and other human rights groups found the human rights situation in Nicaragua greatly improved.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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