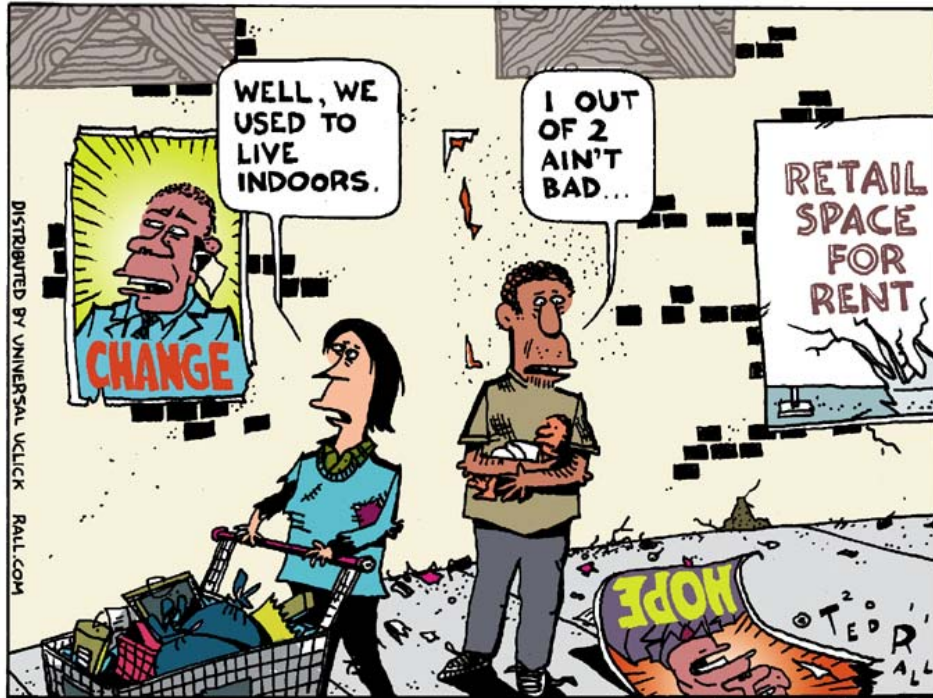


Military Resistance 9H12



**Disgusting Trash In Command
Cheating U.S. Soldiers
Returning From Iraq And
Afghanistan "With An
Apparently Untreatable And
Incurable Lung Disease"
They're Being Kicked Out Of The
Military For Failing Physical
Fitness Tests:**

Scum In Charge Refuse To Order Biopsy Tests That Would Find Out What's Wrong With Them; DoD Stops Referring Soldiers For Treatment To A Doctor Who Did Diagnose What Was Wrong With Them

Comment: T

Here it is again. Same old story.

Used up, thrown away.

To repeat for the 3,562nd 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.

"They're being told by a physician 'you're normal, everything's fine, go suck it up and run' but then they fail their physical fitness test. "These are young kids, 18 years old, they have no clue. I found it was difficult even for me to get diagnosed and I'm a physician."

16 August 2011 Sarah Jones, Channel 4 [Excerpts]

US soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with an apparently untreatable and incurable lung disease are being dismissed as out of shape because tests appear normal, writes Sarah Jones.

A civilian physician who has diagnosed more than 50 soldiers with constrictive bronchiolitis says the life-altering disease is linked to service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dr Robert Miller, of Vanderbilt University, says: "This scarring of the small airways in the lungs is common in people who have had bone marrow transplants or lung transplant rejection not people who have passed military fitness exams.

"What we can say is that this disorder is linked to service in the Middle East. But we haven't been able to definitively link what the cause is for the black lacy pigment. It's something that's inhaled that shouldn't be there."

Last month the New England Journal of Medicine published a study by Dr Miller and colleagues which documented the condition of soldiers who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan and were diagnosed with constrictive bronchiolitis.

However, their analysis doesn't reveal how common the condition is in troops or positively identify the cause of constrictive bronchiolitis in troops.

The diagnoses were made after lung biopsies.

At least half the soldiers have left the service with a disability rating making them eligible to receive anywhere between \$123 to over \$3,100 per month depending on the level of their disability and number of dependents.

In certain instances the Department of Veterans Affairs recognises a link between the disorder and service.

But compensation is based on pulmonary function testing (PFT) and soldiers with constrictive bronchiolitis have normal PFT results despite having scarring of the airways, black lacy pigment in their lungs and severe exercise limitations.

A further complication is that deployed troops do not receive pre- and post-deployment pulmonary function tests that could help doctors know the extent of lung damage.

Dr Sylvia Waters serves in the US army and is a practicing anaesthetist. She used to run every day but after serving in Iraq she had to give up her passion.

"After a six-month tour in Mosul, Iraq I get shortness of breath and an excruciating burning in my lungs after running just a quarter of a mile. I can't run any more."

Army physicians tried routine tests including X-rays, pulmonary function tests and chest CT scans. They tried inhalers and steroid treatments but nothing worked and all tests results kept coming back normal.

At times, Dr Waters says she doubted herself: "I felt like I was going crazy because all these physicians kept telling me everything was coming back negative.

"It was only the fact that I was a physician and I knew other doctors that I even got diagnosed because I don't know how else I would have done it."

Dr Waters' diagnosis process involved an invasive procedure in which the chest is cut open so that a small piece of the lung can be removed for analysis.

"The procedure provided me with an answer, and although it's invasive there was a chance I could have been diagnosed with something treatable. "

The diagnosis was shocking because, if it's progressive, people live five to 10 years but at the same time I was relieved to finally have an answer."

Although the military referred Dr Waters to Dr Miller at her request, Dr Miller says the Department of Defense stopped sending soldiers to him three years ago.

When asked why they had stopped referring patients to him, the Department of Defense issued a statement saying despite this, it is still committed to investigating respiratory health risks.

Craig Postlewaite, Director of Force Readiness, Health Assurance, Health Protection and Readiness Programs said that the Department continues to collect medical surveillance data and perform epidemiological studies to evaluate health risks associated with breathing dust or smoke.

Dr Waters says the year-long journey to get diagnosed was arduous even though she's a health professional.

"There is no way a typical Private would get to see Dr Miller, because they don't know what to research.

"They're being told by a physician 'you're normal, everything's fine, go suck it up and run' but then they fail their physical fitness test.

"These are young kids, 18 years old, they have no clue. I found it was difficult even for me to get diagnosed and I'm a physician."

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

ACTION REPORTS

"I Didn't Like It" [Outreach To New York National Guard]

From: Alan S, Military Resistance Organization

To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: August 12, 2011
Subject: Outreach to New York National Guard 8/11/11

Yesterday morning, 4 very friendly National Guard troops were approached at one of the rail stations here while they patrolled.

The first pair seemed quite interested in what I had to tell them, one having recognized me from the last mass outreach on 7/30.

The other had been deployed to Afghanistan and when asked about it shook his head and said "I didn't like it."

Both were given packets of lit which included a Military Resistance newsletter, the latest *Traveling Soldier* [see below], a GI Rights pamphlet and the Military Resistance/IVAW intro card [see below] plus DVDs of "Sir! No Sir!"

At another part of the station the second pair were offered the same material although one declined saying he wasn't able to accept publications. The other said "they may be being watched" and put the pack in his pocket.

Later on I met a Vietnam Vet who told me "the economy has to have a war" when asked how he felt about the present conflict(s). He accepted what the National Guardsmen were offered. I gave him my phone number and hope to hear from him before long.

MORE:

ACTION REPORTS WANTED: FROM YOU!

An effective way to encourage others to support members of the armed forces organizing to resist the Imperial war is to report what you do.

If you've carried out organized contact with troops on active duty, at base gates, airports, or anywhere else, send a report in to Military Resistance for the Action Reports section.

Same for contact with National Guard and/or Reserve components.

They don't have to be long. Just clear, and direct action reports about what work was done and how.

If there were favorable responses, say so.

If there were unfavorable responses or problems, don't leave them out. Reporting what went wrong and/or got screwed up is especially important, so that others may learn from you what to expect, and how to avoid similar problems if possible.

If you are not planning or engaging in outreach to the troops, you have nothing to report.

NOTE WELL:

Do not make public any information that could compromise the work.

Identifying information – locations, personnel – will be omitted from the reports.

Whether you are serving in the armed forces or not, do not identify members of the armed forces organizing to stop the wars.

If accidentally included, that information will not be published.

The sole exception: occasions when a member of the armed services explicitly directs identifying information be published in reporting on the action.

MORE:

Military Resistance

Traveling Soldier
Newsletter



www.traveling-
soldier.org

(888) 711-2550

contact@militaryproject.org

Box 126, 2576 Broadway New York, NY 10025

SUPPORTING GI RESISTANCE

[front]

If you are a veteran who supports an immediate end to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan -- the Military Project recommends you contact:

IRAQ VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR



www.IVAW.org

[back]

[Cards designed by Richie M, Military Resistance Organization]

MORE:

**NEED SOME TRUTH?
CHECK OUT THE NEW TRAVELING SOLDIER**

Click here to download and view a PDF of issue 35:
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>

FEATURING:

**“The Pentagon Must Be Shit Worried Knowing These Soldiers Have Minds Of
Their Own And No Fear In Expressing Their Opinions”**
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/7.11.action.php>

Afghanistan:
“All My Guys Are Hurt. No One Cares”
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/7.11.afghanistan.php>

**Americans Don't Support The War On Afghanistan:
“Lopsided Majority” Says Get Out**
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/7.11.americans.php>

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/>

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization

**FYI:
Traveling Soldier Is Published By The
Military Resistance Organization:**

Military Resistance Mission Statement:

1. The mission of Military Resistance is to bring together in one organization members of the armed forces and civilians in order to give aid and comfort to members of the armed forces who are organizing to end the wars of empire in

Afghanistan and Iraq. The long term objective is to assist in eliminating all wars of empire by eliminating all empires.

2. Military Resistance does not advocate individual disobedience to orders or desertion from the armed forces. The most effective resistance is organized by members of the armed forces working together.

However, Military Resistance respects and will assist in the defense of troops who see individual desertion or refusal of orders as the only course of action open to them for reasons of conscience.

3. Military Resistance stands for the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of all U.S. and other occupation troops from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Occupied nations have the right to independence and the right to resist Imperial invasion and occupation by force of arms.

4. Efforts to increase democratic rights in every society, organization, movement, and within the armed forces itself will receive encouragement and support.

Members of the armed forces, whether those of the United States or any other nation, have the right and duty to act against dictatorships commanding their services, and to assist civilian movements against dictatorship.

This applies whether a political dictatorship is imposed by force of arms or a political dictatorship is imposed by those in command of the resources of society using their wealth to purchase the political leadership.

5. Military Resistance uses organizational democracy.

This means control of the organization by the membership, through elected delegates to any coordinating bodies that may be formed, whether at local, regional, or national levels.

Any member may run for any job in the organization. All persons elected are subject to immediate recall, by majority vote of the membership.

Coordinating bodies report their actions, decisions and votes to the membership who elected them, and may be overruled by a majority of the membership.

6. It is not necessary for Military Resistance to be in political agreement with other organizations in order to work together towards specific common objectives.

It is productive for organizations working together on common projects to discuss differences about the best way forward for the movement.

Debate is necessary to arrive at the best course of action.

Membership Requirements:

7. It is a condition of membership that each member prioritize and participate in organized action to reach out to active duty armed forces, Reserve and/or National Guard units.

8. Military Resistance or individual members may choose to support candidates for elective office who are for immediate withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan, but do not support a candidate opposed to immediate, unconditional withdrawal.

9. Members may not be active duty or drilling reserve commissioned officers, or employed in any capacity by any police or intelligence agency, local, state, or national.

10. I understand and am in agreement with the above statement. I pledge to defend my brothers and sisters, and the democratic rights of the citizens of the United States, against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

----- (Signed)

(Date)

----- (Application taken by)

Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550

MORE

**You Can Take Action That Makes
A Difference:
Join The Military Resistance
Organization:
MILITARY RESISTANCE MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION**

Name (please print): _____

Armed Forces? (Branch) _____

Veteran? Years: _____

Union: _____

Occupation: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone (Landline): _____

Phone (Cell): _____

\$ dues paid _____

(See next: Calendar year basis.)

Armed Forces Members	@	Dues waived
Civilians	@	\$25
Students/Unemployed	@	\$10
Civilian/Military Prisoners	@	Dues Waived

Comments:

NOTE: Civilian applicants will be interviewed, in person if possible, or by phone.

**Military Resistance: Contact@militaryproject.org
Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657
888-711-2550**

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

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

August 16, 2011 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died as a result of a non-battle related injury in eastern Afghanistan today.

Family: Local Man Born To Serve



Sgt. Joshua Robinson was killed in a dangerous area of southern Afghanistan known for producing poppy plants.

August 10, 2011 By Matthew Hansen, WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

A Marine from the Omaha area was killed Sunday fighting in southern Afghanistan's notorious Sangin District, making him the fifth soldier with Nebraska or Iowa ties to die during a horrific weekend in the war there.

Sgt. Joshua Robinson, a 29-year-old Marine who grew up near Nelson, Neb., and attended Omaha's Metro Community College, died after being shot twice in the chest during a combat patrol in Sangin.

He leaves behind a wife, Rhonda, and two sons, Wyatt, 5, and Kodiak, 4. The family currently resides in Bennington.

Robinson seemed the perfect Marine long before he enlisted, family members said Tuesday. He tracked and hunted animals starting in grade school. He excelled in nearly everything he tried, including a standout career as a prep wrestler when his family moved to Colorado.

And from a young age, family and friends said, he possessed a polite but self-assured demeanor — the perfect mindset for a teacher. Robinson eventually became a well-regarded Marine instructor, teaching younger Marines how to track enemy soldiers and survive in the mountains.

"He was born to be a Marine," said Scott Robinson, an uncle who lives in Hastings. "That's just how he carried himself. That's who he always was."

Robinson died in an area of Afghanistan that former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates called "the most dangerous place in the world."

The Marines have fought in Sangin District, a sliver of land surrounding a small southwestern Afghan city, since taking over the area from the British military last year.

Dozens of Marines have been killed in Sangin, and hundreds wounded, as they battle Taliban-allied insurgents for the key piece of southwestern Afghanistan territory.

The Sangin District is notorious for its poppy fields, which produce the main ingredient in heroin and earn untold millions of dollars for insurgents and Afghan warlords.

It's also known for a hydroelectric dam that could power much of southern Afghanistan — and give American and NATO forces a much-needed public relations victory — if the area were safer and the plant and local electric grid could be improved.

Robinson likely had no problem going to Afghanistan's most dangerous district. His uncle said he routinely took on the tough assignments and completed them.

He wanted to be a Marine, so he did that, his uncle said. He wanted to become a sniper, so he did that. Then he wanted to train other Marines on the finer points of warfare and survival, so he did that, too.

Robinson developed an enemy-tracking course that's believed to be one of the first of its kind in American military history, his family said.

He also taught sniper courses and mountain survival at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif.

Robinson deployed three times to Iraq before shipping to Afghanistan in April, according to a letter written by family members.

He expected to be back in October to reunite with his wife and two sons, who are already learning how to track wild game.

Instead, two Marines and a Navy chaplain appeared at Rhonda Robinson's door earlier this week.

Sgt. Robinson is to be buried in Hastings, but the day and time of the memorial service haven't yet been determined, Scott Robinson said.

Robinson's death came Sunday, just a day after four service members with local ties — three Navy SEALs and a Nebraska National Guardsman — were killed when an insurgent shot down a Chinook helicopter. Thirty Americans and eight Afghans died in the downed helicopter, making it easily the Afghan war's single deadliest attack.

Robinson's death also makes last weekend the bloodiest two days for Nebraska and Iowa during the entire decade of the post-9/11 wars.

In fact, no more than five local troops have died during any single week of the Iraqi and Afghan wars.

The troops with Nebraska and Iowa ties who died Saturday, in the Chinook helicopter attack:

» Johnny Douangdara, a graduate of South Sioux City (Neb.) High School and Navy SEAL dog handler. The 26-year-old son of Laotian immigrants joined the Navy right after his 2003 high school graduation.

» Matthew Mason, 37, a member of the vaunted Navy SEAL Team Six. Mason, whose wife is from Omaha, was badly wounded in the 2004 Battle of Fallujah but worked his way back into the top shape required by the elite military unit.

» Sgt. Patrick Hamburger of Grand Island, a 30-year-old Nebraska National Guardsman who was serving on the downed Chinook's flight crew. Hamburger had been in Afghanistan only since July as part of a National Guard unit trained to fly transport helicopters.

» Jon Tumilson, a 35-year-old Navy SEAL from Rockford in north-central Iowa. Tumilson had told friends and relatives he was thinking of retiring as a SEAL.

Navy SEAL, Formerly Of Stuart, Remembered As Loyal Man Who Loved Family, Country

August 7, 2011 By Eric Pfahler, The Palm Beach Post

STUART — The parents of elite Navy SEALs member Aaron Carson Vaughn remember their son as a loyal man who loved God, his family and his country.

Vaughn, a former Martin County High School student, was one of 38 killed when a U.S. military helicopter was shot down Saturday in Afghanistan, 22 of them Navy SEALs.

"The immediate thing on my mind right now is just that I get to brag about all the great things my son did because while he was alive, we couldn't talk about any of it," Aaron's mother and Stuart resident Karen Vaughn said. "It really is a pleasure to get to tell the world how amazing he was."

The 30-year old leaves behind his wife, Kimberly, and two children, 2-year-old son Reagan and 2-month-old daughter Chamberlyn. Karen Vaughn said there were no immediate plans for a memorial in Stuart, though there might be one planned later.

"Aaron was just a blessing to raise," she said. "He was the treasure. He loved God. He loved his family. He loved his wife and his babies and he loved his country in a way that most people don't even understand."

Aaron Vaughn attended Martin County High School for a few months during his senior year before returning to Obion County, Tenn. to graduate with his former classmates. He played football for Martin County before tearing his anterior cruciate ligament, his father, Billy Vaughn said.

After graduating high school, Aaron Vaughn attended what is now Indian River State College and earned an associate's degree before enlisting in the Navy on his 21st birthday after Sept. 11, 2001, his father said. Aaron Vaughn was working on a bachelor's degree at the time of his death.

"He grew up loving his country, he loved his family and he loved his Lord, and he died a believer, and he believed in this country and the liberties that we have here," Billy Vaughn said. "And he believed it to the point that he was obliged as a Christian believer to fight fundamental Islamic terrorists around this world because he believed it was a threat to his children and to his wife and to all of our western civilization way of life."

As soon as he joined, he went right into the Navy SEALs training program. By doing so, he achieved a lifelong dream, said Geneva Vaughn, Aaron's grandmother.

"He was a smart, gentle, happy boy," Geneva Vaughn said Sunday when reached by phone at her home in Union City, Tenn. "But he stood firm on his convictions even as a young boy."

Aaron Vaughn had been based in Virginia Beach, Va. and had also seen postings in Coronado, Calif.; Guam; Germany; Iraq; and Afghanistan. As of Sunday afternoon, the Facebook page "Prayers for Family of Aaron Vaughn, Navy Seal" had 2,860 "likes," which is a way for people to show interest or support in a page. Another page "In memory of Navy Seal Aaron Carson Vaughn" also had been created.

"We're finding that he was loved by a lot of people in a lot of places, and he's been in a lot of places these last few years," Billy Vaughn said. "He was kind of an extreme on both ends. He was a gentle man, but at the same time he had passion, strong passion to fight and believed that he was doing the right thing by killing people who were a threat to our nation, our way of life."

Jamie Nail of Fort Pierce met Aaron Vaughn through church and the two became close friends. Nail said his friend's faith sustained Aaron Vaughn because he knew he would go to heaven. "He was passionate about the county, but he was also a true Christian," Nail said.

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

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

Resistance Attacks Kandahar Airfield Fuel Depot

August 16, 2011 By David Ariosto, CNN

Afghan authorities on Tuesday raised the number of those killed by an attack at a fuel depot near Kandahar International Airport to four people.

Eight people were also wounded in an attack carried out by three militants at a compound run by an international contractor called Supreme Group, according to a provincial government spokesman.

Zalmay Ayubi said all those killed and injured were Supreme Group security personnel.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack.

Wearing vests packed with explosives, the militants stormed the compound Monday evening, Ayubi said.

One man drove a minibus toward the facility and detonated himself as he approached the main security gate, clearing the way for the other militants to enter the compound and engage in a firefight with security personnel, according to Ayubi.

The militants were later killed in a subsequent gun battle with police and security guards.

The airport is located southeast of Kandahar City, long considered a hotbed of insurgent activity, and is used for both military and civilian flights.

More Resistance Action

Aug. 13, 2011 The Associated Press & 8.15 Reuters & Aug 16, 2011 DPA & By MIRWAIS KHAN, Associated Press

In the west, two policemen and four insurgents were killed in shootout in Herat province, said Noor Khan Nikzad, a spokesman for the provincial police chief.

One policeman was killed by insurgents when they attacked the district governor's office in the central Ghazni province, regional police chief Delawar Zahid said.

In Kandahar province, an attack killed a woman who works for the Afghan government as she was on her way to work in Kandahar city. The assailant shot Rabia Sadat twice as she was getting into a car outside her home Tuesday morning, said her father, Sayed Hussein Sadat. Sadat worked for the province's work and social affairs department, said Zalmay Ayubi, a spokesman for Kandahar's provincial government.

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

Oops: C-130 Takes Out Drone

Aug 16 By MIRWAIS KHAN, Associated Press

Monday, a foreign military cargo plane collided with a surveillance drone in eastern Afghanistan.

The C-130 plane made an emergency landing at a nearby base but was only lightly damaged and no one aboard was injured, said Italian army Capt. Pietro D'Angelo, a spokesman for NATO forces in Afghanistan.

The drone, an RQ-7 Shadow, went down and has not been located yet, he said. Pietro said they were searching for the craft, which was not carrying weapons when it collided with the plane.

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

**The past year – every single day of it – has had its consequences. In the obscure depths of society, an imperceptible molecular process has been occurring irreversibly, like the flow of time, a process of accumulating discontent, bitterness, and revolutionary energy.
-- Leon Trotsky, “Up To The Ninth Of January”**

Cry Havoc And Let Slip: My Riotous Life: “The Overture To The Present Riots, In The Midst Of Huge Youth Unemployment, Was A Royal Wedding Enjoyed By Many As A Morale-Boosting Spectacle Or Perhaps Felt By Some As A Wet Fish Smacked Across The Face”

Historically, hoodie violence – this also goes for the 2005 Paris banlieue riots – touches off when cops kill or maim a young civilian usually of colour.

But then, in a classic Catch-22, comes the demand that these very same police “crack down” harder when it was their behavior that triggered it all in the first place.

August 15, 2011 By CLANCY SIGAL, CounterPunch

Clancy Sigal is a novelist and screenwriter in Los Angeles. He can be reached at clancy@jsasoc.com

“Whatever ends your from put your ballys on link up and cause havic.”

-- Blackberry message from a London rioter

I'm a veteran rioter.

My first, at 15, was when – for racial solidarity and sheer adrenalin rush – I jumped aboard a motorized cavalcade of Jewish tough guys roaring off my Chicago turf into a nearby Italian-American neighborhood to beat up ethnic enemies who, it was rumored, had dissed ‘our’ women and bust up our hangout joints.

Later, when I arrived in England, broke and illegal, in the late Fifties it took about five minutes of sleeping rough under Charing Cross bridge to wipe out any illusions I had about peaceful, bucolic, consensual, nonviolent London derived from films like ‘Mrs Miniver’ and ‘Passport to Pimlico’.

On my second day drunken jobs, in pre-Doc Marten steeltipped boots, tried kicking my head in Trafalgar Square. In Earls Court, Mosleyite fascists, whom I’d lightly heckled, chased and cornered me in full sight of Dixon-of-Dock-Green bobbies who just short of cheering them on let them bang away without interfering.

Since I felt inadequate around serious writers and intellectuals – at 30, I was a late starter – I found my métier and first friends among Teddy Boys and ‘juvenile delinquents’ on the same London streets that have now erupted.

They loved my crazy Hollywood tales, and that I’d known their idol James Dean. With them I relapsed into a sort of delayed adolescence. All the boys and girls were eleven-plus failures from Paddington and Hammersmith ‘sink estates’. One or two of the girls were on the game, and the boys loved a punchup to break up the boredom.

Up the Seven Sisters Road in Islington they brought me along for a dance hall ruction where a boy was knifed to death in front of me. (I was stabbed, too, but not seriously only to test if I had the bottle to keep shtum to the police.)

If you were an American reporter in the UK insatiably curious about, and wanting to understand, what was really happening below stairs, you had to have a taste for violence or you’d miss the whole story, of who did what to whom and why in, essentially, a class war.

Thus, I found myself on the wrong side of the Notting Hill race riots when black folks around Elgin Crescent were attacked – by my white teenage friends – with broken bottles and bricks.

At that time the difference between the neo-Nazi National Front and seemingly average Teds and greasers was not always visible. At the Old Bailey I gave character references from the dock to no avail; Mr Justice Salmon handed down “salutary” prison sentences which immediately stopped the riots.

It depends which side you find yourself on.

As a friend of the mob, I got involved in the 1980s with rebel 'half castes' of Liverpool 8's Toxteth and Moss Side when it was "us" against the police, Black Power vs The Man, an angry, violent, semi-political statement about sus laws and ghettoisation.

My best Liverpool friend got sent for affray to Wakefield prison.

Then I got a house in Kentish Town and suddenly was on the other side.

I'd leave my house for a stroll around the neighborhood by the nearby graffiti-and-piss-in-the-lift-shaft estate, a prison compound in all but name, where the kids, all white and some as young as six or seven, would set upon and try to rob me.

If I kicked one in self-defense, he'd run home and tell his da' or big brother, and I had to bunk off fast. On my own street, in my own neighborhood.

And then, on re-emigrating to California, I ran into the 1992 Los Angeles riots – or "people's uprising" or "civil unrest" depending on how you "contextualize" 53 dead and \$1 billion damage. Rioters, tooled up and in cars, came very close to where I live, destroying and shooting.

They halted only a few streets away, shying off at the invisible class wall that divides black-and-brown LA from the more tightly policed, richer, white-ish Bel Air, Brentwood and Beverly Hills.

Noticeably, today's London erupters didn't trash Belgravia or Knightsbridge either.

The Los Angeles police department, like its current London counterpart, despite plenty of advance warning, had been caught leaderless and incompetent, its chief a known racist. Order was not restored until the military, the National Guard, came in with bayonets fixed.

The British police are in a pickle.

Historically, hoodie violence – this also goes for the 2005 Paris banlieue riots – touches off when cops kill or maim a young civilian usually of colour.

But then, in a classic Catch-22, comes the demand that these very same police "crack down" harder when it was their behavior that triggered it all in the first place.

(The LA riots exploded when white policemen were videotaped beating crap out of a black petty criminal, Rodney King, and cleared by a mostly white jury.)

I hated Stanley Kubrick's 'Clockwork Orange'. Way over the top, vindictive, anti-youth, I thought on first viewing. But that was before Blackberry and Tweet condensed tribal patois into this current electronic language at once creative, illiterate, and terrifying. Hip hop meets J.G. Ballard.

It depends on whether you're up looking down or down looking up.

The overture to the present riots, in the midst of huge youth unemployment, was a Royal wedding enjoyed by many as a morale-boosting spectacle or perhaps felt by some as a wet fish smacked across the face.

All that finery!

Kate's \$400,000 dress, the \$800,000 flower display, \$78,000 cake – and 5000 policemen to guard the royals when only a fraction of that number were sent to the Tottenham trouble.

The message was unmistakable.

As also was the Piccadilly incident, a few weeks before the wedding, when cuts-protesting students attacked Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall in their Rolls Royce.

During the 1984 miners' strike the police, truncheons drawn and mounted on horses, ran over the strikers in the 'Battle of Orgreave' in south Yorkshire in what was really a police riot.

They had learned entirely new battle tactics from the Toxteth and Brixton riots.

Mrs Thatcher whipped the miners in '84 by creating – ominously – a centralized, computerized, military-style British police organization that is also currently leaderless but if rushed out now in panic with Robocops armed with heavier weapons, will turn out to be a real Frankenstein monster which to many people on the streets it already is.

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.

GOT AN OPINION?

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CLASS WAR REPORTS

**Perfect
Go For It!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8MX9WRfAZ4>

[Thanks to Felicity Arbuthnot, who sent this in.]

**Mass Demonstration Forces
Frightened Chinese
Dictatorship To Close
Poisonous Factory:
“Dalian’s Communist Party
Secretary Tang Jun, Standing
Atop A Police Van, Tried And
Failed To Disperse A Crowd
Authorities Estimated At 12,000”
“The Outcome Was Highly Unusual In
China, Where Large-Scale Public
Protests Are Often Put Down With
Force”
“Typically, Analysts Say, Beijing
Tolerates Little Dissent For Fear Protests
Will Spread To Cities Where Citizens
Have Similar Grievances”**



A protester waves a sign reading 'Say no to PX, give me back Dalian,' as thousands demonstrated against a chemical plant in Dalian on Sunday. Reuters

AUGUST 15, 2011 By JAMES T. AREDDY, Wall Street Journal. Yang Jie contributed to this article. [Excerpts]

SHANGHAI—The Dalian city government agreed to shutter a chemical plant in an unusual display of responsiveness, bowing to environmental protests that brought thousands of residents onto the streets of the northeastern Chinese port city.

The decision to close the plant was announced just hours after Dalian's Communist Party Secretary Tang Jun, standing atop a police van, tried and failed to disperse a crowd authorities estimated at 12,000 with a pledge to relocate the plant at a future date.

"Time!" "Time!" "Tell us when!" members of the crowd shouted back at Mr. Tang, drowning him out.

Just two years old, the privately owned Fujia petrochemical plant will be shut down immediately, the city government said late Sunday, reported the state-run Xinhua news agency.

The outcome was highly unusual in China, where large-scale public protests are often put down with force.

Typically, analysts say, Beijing tolerates little dissent for fear protests will spread to cities where citizens have similar grievances or that demonstrators might demand more sensitive changes, such as greater political representation.

Even when protests are permitted, organizers are often arrested later.

Security was heavy on Dalian streets on Sunday. State media reported that police in riot gear scuffled with the placard-carrying crowd. However, the demonstrations were largely peaceful and the crowds greeted the concession to close the plant with enthusiasm.

"This is such good news," said one demonstrator, 28-year-old Ken Zhang, who said he began days ago preparing T-shirts and banners.

"I can't just let this toxic project harm the health of myself, my family and all my friends."

Environmental concerns are a growing rallying point for China's generation of new homeowners and parents.

Yet rarely have protests been so bold, or appeared to prompt an official climb-down so quickly, as they did in Dalian.

Momentum for the Dalian protest built all last week, sparked by the unexpected arrival of a powerful typhoon.

When the deadly tropical storm Muifa missed Shanghai last weekend and bounced up the Chinese coast, Dalian residents feared its arrival would collapse sea walls and swamp the plant.

In postings on microblogs, residents discussed parallels with Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, which was hobbled by a tsunami and unaided by sea walls after the country's earthquake in March.

Muifa churned seas with 20-meter (66feet) swells, breaking a dyke at the perimeter of Fujia near its large storage tanks. Local residents were evacuated and truckloads of workers supported by China's military worked to rebuild the walls, television footage showed. A thin layer of water lapped under parts of the plant, the footage showed.

Officials later said the dyke was repaired and nothing spilled.

On Sunday, photos circulated on the Internet showing thousands gathered in front of Dalian's government headquarters starting in the early morning.

Through the day, the crowd of mostly young people grew, some carrying umbrellas to block the hot sun and others waving banners protesting the "PX Plant."

The protest was aimed at a privately owned chemical plant called Fujia, which makes paraxylene, a petrochemical used to create raw materials for the production of polyester film and fabrics.

Also known as PX, the chemical is carcinogenic.

The protest model is a June 2007 demonstration in the southern city of Xiamen, now dubbed the "Xiamen stroll," when citizens sent text messages encouraging their friends to meet for a "walk" or "stroll," implicitly to grumble about another PX plant.

That plant was built elsewhere two years later.

Similar walks have taken place in other Chinese cities, but they are usually smaller affairs.

After citizens in one Shanghai neighborhood walked to oppose the extension of a fast rail line, the government scrapped the project, though its high cost likely factored into the decision.

Far more numerous, analysts say, are clashes in rural China, where villagers challenge industrial encroachment on farms and rarely succeed.

Even before Sunday's rally, there were signs the government was moving to shut the plant, located near the East China Sea on the Dalian peninsula. On Aug. 10, the Chinese news agency Xinhua said Dalian leaders held an urgent meeting that concluded a date for relocation should be set.

In past interviews, Dalian policy makers have spoken about their futuristic high-technology sector that has drawn investors like chip maker Intel Inc.

One of the city's top tourist attractions is the East Sea aquarium.

However, the city's modern economy was founded on heavy steel, petrochemicals and manufacturing. Dalian has offered generous incentives to big industrial companies, including Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., to move their factories away from the city center.

**“The Indian Parliament Has
Been Paralysed By Anti-
Corruption Protests For Two
Weeks”**

**“Spontaneous Protests In Cities
Across The Country”**

**“The Government Is Atrocious”
“God Will Not Save You, Delhi Police!”**

[Thanks to David McReynolds, who sent this in.]

16 Aug 2011 Aljazeera & By JIM YARDLEY, The New York Times & by Mark Magnier, Los Angeles Times [Excerpts]

Police have ordered the release of India's leading anti-corruption campaigner from jail after being arrested for planning a hunger strike.

The arrest of Anna Hazare early on Tuesday sparked spontaneous protests in cities across the country.

"Why have you arrested him?" P. K. Gupta, a businessman, shouted at officers as he stopped on his scooter. "You should arrest corrupt people! Why have you arrested a simple, honest man? The government is atrocious. God is watching! God will not save you, Delhi police!"

After Hazare's detention, lawmakers walked out of Parliament as protests erupted in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and other cities.

About 1,000 people were reportedly detained at Delhi's Chhatrasal Stadium as hunger strikes, marches, motorcycle rallies and sit-ins broke out in other parts of the country.

Television footage showed demonstrators in Delhi sitting with locked arms, some holding Indian flags, as police pulled them apart and dragged them away.

A close aide, who had also been arrested, said Hazare was refusing to leave the jail until he obtained government permission to continue his fast in a park in the capital.

Police also released about 1,500 of Hazare's followers detained in Delhi for defying the police order not to protest.

Hazare, 74, was taken into custody as he prepared to lead a parade to a public park in New Delhi where he was to begin a "fast unto death".

In a pre-taped appeal, Hazare urged his supporters to protest despite his arrest.

"My dear countrymen, the second freedom struggle has begun, and now I have also been arrested. But will this movement be stopped by my arrest? No, not at all. Don't let it happen," he said.

Home Minister P. Chidambaram said organisers had refused to guarantee to obey police orders that the rally would be limited to 5,000 people and that it could only last three days.

Many of the detainees arrested in New Delhi were driven to a sports stadium in northern New Delhi where a large crowd gathered outside in a tense stand-off with police, AFP reported.

Police on Monday denied Hazare permission to fast near a cricket stadium because he failed to meet certain conditions, including ending his fast in three days and ensuring not more than 5,000 people took part.

Hazare ended a four-day hunger strike in April after the government set up a committee to draft legislation to create an anti-corruption ombudsman. The committee included Hazare and other non-elected activists.

The legislation was introduced in India's parliament earlier this month but Hazare demanded that it be made tougher to include the prime minister and the judiciary in its remit. The current draft of the law does not include them.

Hazare's protest has tapped into deep public anger against corruption in India as the Congress party-led government battles a series of graft scandals.

These include the sale of mobile phone licenses and the hosting of last year's Commonwealth Games, which together lost the country as much as \$40bn, according to government auditors.

The Indian parliament has been paralysed by anti-corruption protests for two weeks, stalling crucial legislation.



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