

Military Resistance 9H8

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



A United States Marine onboard a medevac helicopter from the US Army's 1-214 Aviation Regiment, after he was wounded in an IED strike near Sangin, Helmand Province of southern Afghanistan, June 4, 2011. (AP Photo/Anja Niedringhaus)

Command Knew What Was Coming -- 38 Dead:

**[From Front Page, Military
Resistance: June 19, 2011]**

**“I Heard A Metallic Sound And
Realized The Helicopter Had Been
Hit”**

**“One Bullet Passed Barely A Third Of An
Inch (1 Centimeter) From The Hydraulic
System Powering The Huge Helicopter”**

“Another Went Through The Metal Near The Fuel Tank”

18 June 2011 By ANJA NIEDRINGHAUS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

(AP photographer Anja Niedringhaus traveled with a US Army “Dustoff” medevac unit for two weeks in Afghanistan’s Helmand province. This is her first-person account of one dangerous day on the job for the soldiers.)

Southern Afghanistan remains a stronghold of the Taliban, and Sangin is a hotly contested district. The spring fighting season is now under way.

That means more soldiers wounded by gunfire and bombings. And more work for the medics of the “Dustoff” helicopters.

As we approached Sangin, I saw an Afghan woman hanging her laundry inside the yard of her house. The tranquility of the scene helped me relax.

That sense of calm lasted just a few moments.

Dust, mud and grass churned up in front of us as the Black Hawk landed.

Campbell, 35, of Juniper, Idaho, reached out to open the door. Then gunfire erupted.

I heard a metallic sound and realized the helicopter had been hit. The pilot, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Dan Fink, quickly pulled the helicopter’s nose toward the sky. All I could see in front of us were trees and power lines.

“If we are going to crash. I don’t want to see it,” I thought. My eyes shut, I held onto my seat belt.

I opened my eyes. We hadn’t crashed. Slowly, the helicopter gained altitude and rose to safety.

We cruised slowly as Fink, 40, of Spring Hill, Kansas, and another pilot, Chief Warrant Office 2 Niel Stewart, 34, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, checked the helicopter to make sure it could still maneuver. It could.

Only one thing rushed through my mind: “Please, please, just let us get out of here until that firefight down on the ground ends.” But of course I didn’t say that out loud.

After 15 minutes, I realized we would return to the same spot. As I looked at Campbell, I noticed his extraordinary level of concentration. He adjusted his gloves, reached for his assault rifle and then peered out of his open window.

I kept trying to find my lucky charms in my pockets.

The helicopter touched down right where we took fire only minutes earlier. The big side door slid open. I reached for my camera, feeling better because I could concentrate on something else.

Campbell jumped out first. He looked around. Neither of us could see the Marines. Suddenly, a Marine jumped up from a ditch nearby, one hand on his stomach and the other holding rosary beads.

The Marine sprinted toward us, turning around to wave to the others that he could make it to the helicopter. Another Marine tried to catch up to help him, but the injured Marine, Lance Cpl. Blas Trevino from 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, ran so fast he made it to the helicopter first.

Trevino latched onto Campbell in a desperate hug.

“You have made it! You have made it!” Campbell shouted over the whine of the idling helicopter.

Mr. Trevino collapsed on a stretcher, exhausted. He lifted his head to scream: “Yes, I have made it!”

As the helicopter lifted off again, the medics began treating Mr. Trevino for a gunshot wound to his stomach. During the 10-minute flight, he kept praying while clutching his rosary beads. He gave us thumbs-up signal. He would survive the wound.

We landed at Forward Operating Base Edi outside Sangin but still in Helmand province. Medics carried Mr. Trevino into a hospital tent.

Meanwhile, Mr. Fink and Mr. Stewart walked around the helicopter, looking for damage.

Gunfire had struck five times in the tail. One bullet passed barely a third of an inch (1 centimeter) from the hydraulic system powering the huge helicopter. Another went through the metal near the fuel tank.

The two men took off their bulletproof vests.

“That was pretty close,” they agreed.

MORE:

Command Sent U.S. Troops Back To The “Valley Of Death” Priority?

Sure, First The Outposts, Then The Cities, Then Back To The Outposts: Chaotic Whack-A-Mole “Decisions” Signal A Command Running A Failing War With No Strategic Plan



Wreckage of the Chinook helicopter shot down last week at Tangi Valley in Wardak province some 60 miles (97 kilometers) southwest of Kabul, Afghanistan, Aug. 11, 2011. The Chinook helicopter that insurgents shot down over the weekend burst into flames before hitting the ground, leaving wreckage scattered on both sides of a river in eastern Afghanistan and killing 30 Americans and eight Afghans. The crash of the Chinook CH-47, was the deadliest single loss for U.S. forces in the nearly 10-year Afghan war. (AP Photo/ Mohammad Nasir)

Aug 12 By DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press [Excerpts]

KABUL, Afghanistan -- Just months after pulling out of a remote slice of eastern Afghanistan dubbed the “Valley of Death,” U.S. troops are back reinforcing their once-abandoned bases in the area - a hotbed of the insurgency and a dangerous second front in the decade-old war.

Stationing U.S. troops again in the isolated, sparsely populated Pech Valley will boost the coalition's presence and firepower in the area near the Pakistan border just as the focus of the war shifts back to that region where infiltrating insurgents hold sway.

The U.S. military downplayed the decision to station troops again in Pech.

The Pech Valley in Kunar province, with bucolic green farmland surrounded by sweeping mountain ridges, was the scene of some of the fiercest fighting in the war and claimed the lives of more than 100 U.S. soldiers by some estimates.

In May, the U.S.-led coalition pulled out of the valley, saying it wanted to reposition its forces in areas where more Afghans live as part of strategy to protect large population centers and provide the Afghan government with an opportunity to extend its reach from Kabul and provide services to its citizens with the help of donor nations.

The former eastern commander Maj. Gen. John Campbell told The Associated Press at the time that he did not want his forces stuck in static positions.

He said he wanted them to be mobile and more able to chase insurgents sneaking in from hideouts in Pakistan.

Just as in Pech, U.S. forces had left their remote base in Tangi, ostensibly to reinforce population centers and highways.

“Although special operations raids have given the insurgents some black eyes in the Tangi and other valleys abandoned by U.S. forces, they have not disrupted enemy operations to the degree that had been hoped,” Moyer [Mark Moyer, research director of the U.S.-based Orbis Operations] wrote in a recent editorial.

“Shortly before the crash in the Tangi Valley, recognition of the dangers posed by insurgents have led to a momentous, if largely unnoticed, decision to reinsert a permanent U.S. troops presence in the Pech Valley,” he wrote.

American troops did not get a welcome mat on their return to the area in the last week of July.

Insurgents fired at a coalition helicopter on July 25, injuring a few troops.

A few days later, insurgents fired a mortar into a building at a base in Nangalam where U.S. troops were deployed. No deaths were reported.

The new top U.S. commander in eastern Afghanistan, Maj. Gen. Daniel B. Allyn, said the U.S. presence again in Pech was part of the coalition's efforts to partner with Afghan security forces.

“Frankly, there was a leadership challenge in the (Afghan Army) kandak (battalion) and when they replaced the leader that was there ... he did not take them forward as an independent force so we're going back in to restore that capacity,” Allyn told the Long War Journal in an interview published this week. **[Classic meaningless command babble: simple translation: “Everything we tried turned to shit.”**

**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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

**Two Foreign Occupation
“Servicemembers” Killed Somewhere Or
Other In Afghanistan Thursday:
Nationality Not Announced**

August 12, 2011 Reuters

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

In a separate incident, another foreign service member died following an insurgent attack in southern Afghanistan yesterday.

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

August 12, 2011 Reuters

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

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

August 12, 2011 Reuters

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

Bradenton Soldier Killed In Afghanistan IED Attack



Joann Steiff with Patrick Lay [Facebook]

Aug. 13, 2011 By LEE WILLIAMS, Bradenton.com\

BRADENTON -- Spc. 4 Patrick L. Lay II, one of Bradenton's native sons, was killed Thursday while on combat operations in Afghanistan.

He was a decorated soldier and a proven leader who was viewed by all as “the All-American Boy.”

Spc. 4 Lay, who was only 21, died from injuries he sustained in an IED strike, according to his mother Stefenie Hernandez, also of Bradenton.

She was told little else about the circumstances of her son's death. “My son gave his life for his country so we can live free and continue to have what we have,” Hernandez said. “He was fun-loving. He liked to joke. He was a very, very sweet child.”

Family and friends flocked to her home Friday.

The dining room table was covered with photos of Patrick in uniform. Nearby was the camouflage purse Lay sent to his mom before he deployed, bearing his division patch, unit crest and a name tag from his ACUs.

Family and friends shared hugs, tears and memories of Patrick, all the while trying to steel his mother's resolve for the arduous journey she now faces.

Hernandez is traveling today to Dover, Del., to watch as six soldiers carry her son down the tail ramp of an Air Force jet into the military's busiest morgue.

Spc. 4 Lay was an infantryman assigned to the Army's elite 10th Mountain Division in Ft. Drum, N.Y. He was scheduled to possibly rotate home in a few months.

He was engaged to marry his high school sweetheart Joann Steiff, also 21, in August next year.

Joann says she was 15 when she knew Patrick Lay was the man she wanted to marry.

"Before he got deployed, he loved the Army," she said.

But her fiance did not like Afghanistan.

"He hated it," she said. "He wanted to come home."

Everyone who knew Patrick remarked about the incredible loss to the community because of the young man's stellar potential. Many say he was the real "All American Boy."

Patrick gave up a full-ride football scholarship to join the Army.

"The first thing that came to mind was it really sucks to lose such a good person who could have benefited society here in this state," said Adam Butler, Lay's former offensive line coach at Braden River High School. "We lost a really good person who could have really made a difference here when he got back."

Justin Mayhugh was a friend and high school football teammate.

"Patrick was the type of guy to give out a helping hand to those in need -- an all-around all-American kid," Mayhugh said. "Our country was privileged to have him in the Army. Me knowing Patrick like I did, I know he gave it his all."

Patrick enjoyed fishing for bass with his grandfather and hunting wild hogs, his mother said.

"He was the very definition of a momma's boy," she said. "He was very protective of me."

Survivors include two brothers and two sisters, including Nikki Lay, who's just 15 months older.

"I lost one of the closest people to me," Nikki said. "He gave me a bouquet of pink roses for my high school graduation. My grandma gave me a bouquet of pink roses when I graduated college, because Patrick was deployed. It made me feel like he was still here."

Patrick Lay Sr. said his son "loved life and lived it to the fullest."

“He was a natural born leader. People followed him,” Patrick’s father said. “He left a 9-year-old half-brother who is devastated, who looked upon him as an idol.”

The elder Lay said his fondest memory of his son was his smile, which blossomed whenever his fiancé was around.

“Joann -- she made him smile,” Lay said. “He really loved her, and he really loved his mother.”

Joann’s friends are gathering around her for support, said Lindsay Pence, 21, a former classmate at Braden River High.

“It’s gonna be tough, but we’ll be here for her,” she said.

Pence remembers Patrick best for his sense of humor.

“He would always get me in trouble,” she recalled. “He was always the class clown. In ag, he’d mess around with the cows or the pigs or the water hose. His sense of humor was ridiculous.”

Lay saw the Army as a way to make a difference, his father says.

“He knew he could get his leadership skills honed, and he knew the Army would take him places in his life he’d never be able to go on his own,” Lay said.

Family friend Tim Whitley said Lay was a natural soldier.

“He was just proud to serve his country, and he was very good at what he did,” Whitley said. “He enjoyed it. He never mentioned anything post-Army.”

Randy Maddox, a longtime friend, considered Lay like one of their own children.

“He referred to my kids as his brother and sister,” Maddox said. “He was the most loyal individual you’ll ever find.”

Maddox clearly remembers the day Patrick told him he’d decided to enlist.

“I tried to talk him out of it, to see if he was sure,” Maddox said. “He wanted to be the type of person people looked up to. He had a lot of friends and family, and he loved every one of us and would do anything for us. He proved that by defending us, and by keeping the fight off our soil. That was his way of protecting us.”

Pastor Jim McDaniel, who served at The Pentecostals of Bradenton for 25 years, has known Patrick since the day he was born.

“I spoke to him when he was thinking about” enlisting, McDaniel said. “He was excited to serve his country.”

“The closest memory I have of him was when he and his sister were playing with my two daughters. They were just best friends,” McDaniel said. “He was very respectful. He

enjoyed having fun. He was just like a part of our family. I think we lost a friend. A lot of us lost a son.”

Del Oro Grad Killed In Action In Afghanistan



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. James M. Christen. [Courtesy]

7/21/11 By Joyia Emard, Gold Country News Service

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. James M. Christen, 29, a 2000 Del Oro High School graduate, died in Afghanistan on Tuesday, July 19, while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the Department of Defense announced today.

According to Gold Country Media archives, as a Del Oro senior, Christen received the Army College Fund Award.

Art Brown, 28, of Roseville, served with Christen in 2006 when they were both stationed with the 173rd Airborne Unit, in Italy.

Brown, a 2001 Granite Bay High School graduate, said Christen was an air traffic controller at the time.

“He was really a stand-up guy – an all-around good person. He was the nicest guy,” Brown said.

Brown described Christen as the type of person “if you needed something, he’d give the shirt off his back.”

Brown also said Christen treated lower-ranked military members with respect.

“You respected him because he gave you respect. He wanted us to do well,” Brown, who now works in law enforcement, said.

Brown also said Christen was a “quiet guy” who didn’t try to be the center of attention.

The Department of Defense said Christen, who was married, was killed in Kunar province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with an improvised explosive device.

Christen was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

This was Christen's third deployment overseas. He previously served two tours in Iraq.

Christen's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart (both posthumous), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Star, Iraq Campaign with Star, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Army Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Profession Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge and the Parachutist Badge.

Fuzzy Jarnigan, commander of American Legion Post 775, in Loomis, said he was "extremely proud" of Christen for the patriotism he displayed in serving his country and the commitment he made.

Sgt. Jacob Molina, 27, of Houston, Texas, was also killed in the attack.

Holton Soldier Killed In Afghanistan



The Holton community is mourning the death of Pfc. Cody G. Baker, a 2010 graduate of Holton High School, who was killed while on duty with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan earlier this week. [COURTESY/US ARMY]

August 5, 2011 By Phil Anderson, The Topeka Capital-Journal

A 19-year-old U.S. Army soldier from Holton and another member of his battalion were killed earlier this week while serving in Afghanistan, authorities said.

The Department of Defense identified the soldiers as Pfc. Cody G. Baker, a 2010 graduate of Holton High School, and Pfc. Gil I. Morales Del Valle, 21, of Jacksonville, Fla.

Authorities said the soldiers, both of whom were infantrymen, died Wednesday from injuries suffered when enemy forces attacked their vehicle with an improvised explosive device in the Wardak province of Afghanistan.

Baker and Del Valle were assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, and were stationed at Fort Polk, La.

Holton High School principal Rod Wittmer, who is preparing for his second year at the helm of the school, said Friday afternoon that staff members were shocked and saddened at the news of the young soldier's death.

Holton teachers remembered Baker as "very well liked and respected," said Wittmer, who came to the school several months after Baker's graduation.

Wittmer said staff members at the school respected the service Baker provided to his community and his country and that "our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time."

Upon learning of his death, Baker's friends prepared and posted a video tribute on YouTube. The video is available on CJOnline.com.

Many tributes also were posted on Baker's Facebook page, with comments by fellow soldiers and friends from Holton.

"Americans are forever indebted to Pfc. Baker for his service to our country and sacrifice on our behalf," Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., said in a statement. "My heart goes out to his family as they mourn this tragic loss, and I ask all Kansans to join me in keeping his family and friends in their thoughts and prayers during this difficult time."

Baker joined the Army in June 2010. After training at Fort Benning, Ga., he arrived at Fort Polk, La., in October 2010. Baker deployed with his unit in November 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Baker's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the NATO Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Army officials said Baker is survived by his mother and stepfather.

Funeral services for Baker will be announced next week by Mercer Funeral Home in Holton.

Quebecer Killed In Afghan Chopper Crash

August 12, 2011 Jean-François Racine, QMI Agency

QUEBEC CITY - A 44-year-old Quebecer and member of the U.S. Navy SEALs was among the 38 people killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan last Friday.

Insurgents shot down the Chinook helicopter. It was the deadliest single attack against the international military coalition since the war began almost 10 years ago.

The Pentagon on Thursday released the names of all U.S. military personnel killed during the operation.

Master Chief Petty Officer Louis J. Langlais was born in Quebec City and lived with his family in Santa Barbara, Calif. He abandoned his Canadian citizenship to enlist in the U.S. military.

Langlais was a father of two young boys and liked to skateboard, play baseball and go fishing, according to an obituary written by a friend and published in a Santa Barbara newspaper.

Aside from U.S. military personnel, seven Afghan commandos and an Afghan interpreter were among the 38 killed.

International media have reported that most of the Navy SEALs on board the helicopter were part of the team of soldiers that killed Osama Bin Laden in early May. The Pentagon hasn't confirmed the reports.

French Soldier Killed In Tagab

12 Août 2011 Zone Militaire & BBC

A French soldier has been killed and four wounded in the Afghan province of Kapisa, north of the capital, Kabul.

The soldiers were travelling in an armoured convoy when they were hit on Thursday, news agency AFP quoted the French presidency as saying.

The French soldier of the 19th Engineer Regiment (CER) of Besançon killed by the improvised explosive device in the area of Tagab, August 11, is Master Corporal Facrou Housseini Ali.

Born in the Comoros 23 April 1979, Ali Husseini Facrou committed initially for three years at the RG 19th January 2001, where he was assigned to the 1st company of combat after the training period.

Brought to the distinction of first class on 1 August 2001, Facrou gets the basic technical certificate "Armoured Engineering Vehicle" in October of that year. It distinguished in 2002 during a mission in Guyana, for his hard work.

Swedish Soldier Wounded In Afghanistan

13 Aug 11 The Local

A Swedish soldier was injured near Mazar-e-Sharif in Afghanistan on Saturday morning. The Swedish troop was on a routine mission together with Afghan security forces, when they were fired upon north of the village Chintal.

The Swedish soldier, from Norrbotten in northern Sweden, was injured in one leg, and was taken to a German field hospital in Mazar-e-Sharif.

"Swedish medical resources began the initial care on the injured soldier on the spot, as a medical helicopter was called in from Isaf, the international security force Swedish troops act under, to transport the injured to Mazar-e-Sharif," wrote the Swedish Armed Forces (Försvarsmakten) in a statement.

The soldier's condition isn't life threatening, but he will be brought home to Sweden for continued care, reported the Armed Forces.

As well as the Swedish soldier, one Afghan police officer was injured in the shooting, but it is still unclear how severely.

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

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

**"Bodies Of Five Policemen And
Three Intelligence Agents" Found:
"The Governor's Office Said That The
Taliban Continues To Threaten Local**

Residents Despite Being Outnumbered By Afghan Security Forces”

“They Are Not Chasing The Enemies, They Only Patrol On Asphalt Roads”

Aug. 13, 2011 The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan security forces have recovered the bodies of five policemen and three intelligence agents who were captured by insurgents two days ago in eastern Afghanistan, an official said Saturday.

Insurgents captured the eight security troops on Thursday in the Day Mirdad district of Wardak province, said provincial spokesman Shahidullah Shahid.

The bodies were discovered late Friday and taken to the provincial capital city of Maidan Shahr early Saturday, Shahid said.

The violence in the province prompted the Wardak's governor's office to take the unusual step of publicly rebuking the Afghan military.

The office said in a statement that Afghan army troops have enough personnel to secure the province, but fail to do so because the soldiers are confined to a few checkpoints along major roads.

“They are not chasing the enemies, they only patrol on asphalt roads,” the statement said.

“They are not making any connections with the local people and they are unable to carry out their duties.”

The governor's office said that the Taliban continues to threaten local residents despite being outnumbered by Afghan security forces. The statement also said the military consistently fails to follow through with plans made during interagency security meetings in Wardak.

The U.S. military had planned to handover a joint combat outpost in the Tangi Valley area of Wardak, near the site of the U.S. helicopter crash, to the Afghan army in April. Afghan commanders refused to take over the camp, which was then briefly occupied by the Taliban, according to military officials and local townspeople.

Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi, a spokesman for Afghanistan's Defence Ministry, dismissed the criticism as the complaints of a provincial office about a national institution.

"The national army cannot receive orders from the provincial governors in their provinces," he said.

THE UNDOUBTED SUCCESS OF THE U.S. MILITARY EFFORT MAY BE SEEN HERE, SHOWING THE VAST QUANTITIES OF AFGHANISTAN THAT HAVE BEEN LIBERATED, AND WILL FORM THE BASIS FOR A NEW, FREE, DEMOCRATIC AFGHAN SOCIETY



A U.S. Marine July 30, 2011 in Kajaki, Helmand province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/David Goldman)

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

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>

Traveling Soldier is the publication of the Military Resistance Organization.

Telling the truth - about the occupations or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance to Imperial wars inside the armed forces.

Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.

If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers. <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>

And join with Iraq Veterans Against the War to end the occupations and bring all troops home now! (www.ivaw.org/)

FORWARD OBSERVATIONS



“At a time like this, scorching irony, not convincing argument, is needed. Oh had I the ability, and could reach the nation’s ear, I would, pour out a fiery stream of biting ridicule, blasting reproach, withering sarcasm, and stern rebuke.

“For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder.

“We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake.”

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number,
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you-
Ye are many — they are few
-- Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1819, on the occasion of a mass murder of British workers by the Imperial government at Peterloo.

**“A People Bent On
Indemnifying Themselves By
Illegal Excesses For The Want
Of Legal Privileges”**

**“It Is Easy To Say, ‘Be Bold: Be
Firm: Defy Intimidation: Let The
Law Have Its Course: The Law Is
Strong Enough To Put Down The
Seditious’”**

**“It Is The Blustering Of Little Men
Whose Lot Has Fallen On A Great
Crisis”**

**“The Government Had Only One Clear
Choice Before It: Concession Or Civil
War”**

[Thomas Babington Macaulay's Animadversions Upon The 2011 Disturbances In London And The Northern Shires]

**Delivered in The Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Ireland in Parliament assembled, October 10, 1831**

[Excerpts]

I firmly believe that the country is in danger of calamities greater than ever threatened it, from domestic misgovernment or from foreign hostility.

The danger is no less than this, that there may be a complete alienation of the people from their rulers.

What I apprehend is this, that the people may engage in a silent, but extensive and persevering war against the law.

What I apprehend is, that England may exhibit the same spectacle which Ireland exhibited three years ago, agitators stronger than the magistrate, associations stronger than the law, a government powerful enough to be hated, and not powerful enough to be feared, a people bent on indemnifying themselves by illegal excesses for the want of legal privileges.

I fear, that we may before long see the tribunals defied, the tax-gatherer resisted, public credit shaken, property insecure, the whole frame of society hastening to dissolution.

It is easy to say, "Be bold: be firm: defy intimidation: let the law have its course: the law is strong enough to put down the seditious."

Sir, we have heard all this blustering before; and we know in what it ended.

It is the blustering of little men whose lot has fallen on a great crisis. Xerxes scourging the winds, Canute commanding the waves to recede from his footstool, were but types of the folly of those who apply the maxims of the quarter sessions to the great convulsions of society.

The law has no eyes: the law has no hands: the law is nothing, nothing but a piece of paper printed by the king's printer, with the king's arms at the top, till public opinion breathes the breath of life into the dead letter.

We found this in Ireland.

The Catholic Association bearded the government. The government resolved to put down the association.

An indictment was brought against my honourable and learned friend, the member for Kerry. The grand jury threw it out.

Parliament met. The Lords Commissioners came down with a speech recommending the suppression of the self-constituted legislature of Dublin. A bill was brought in: it passed both Houses by large majorities: it received the royal assent.

And what effect did it produce?

Exactly as much as that old Act of Queen Elizabeth, still unrepealed, by which it is provided that every man who, without a special exemption, shall eat meat on Fridays and Saturdays, shall pay a fine of twenty shillings or go to prison for a month.

Not only was the association not destroyed: its power was not for one day suspended: it flourished and waxed strong under the law which had been made for the purpose of annihilating it.

The elections of 1826, the Clare election two years later, proved the folly of those who think that nations are governed by wax and parchment: and, at length, in the close of 1828, the government had only one clear choice before it: concession or civil war.

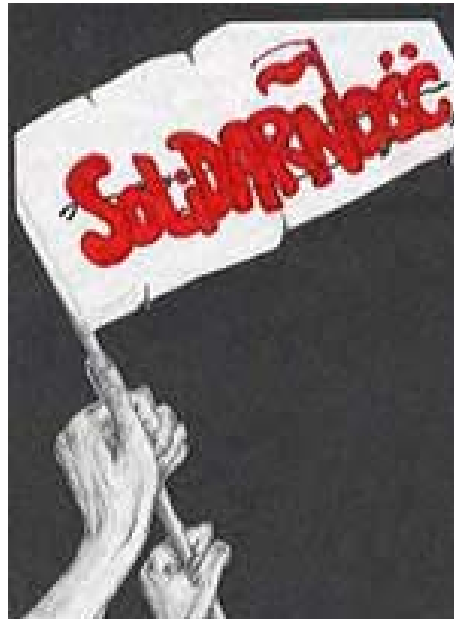
MORE:

Prime Minister David Cameron's Warning to British Youth



ANNIVERSARIES

**August 14, 1980:
Polish Workers Strike Against
Dictatorship:
“They Had Illusions In The Army,
And Did Not Make Any Serious
Effort To Win Over Rank-And-File
Soldiers”**



After months of labor turmoil, more than 16,000 Polish workers seized control of the Lenin Shipyards in Gdansk.

Carl Bunin Peace History August 13-19 [Excerpts]

9 August 2000 BY CHRIS SLEE, Green Left Weekly [Excerpts]

Twenty years ago, on August 14, a strike began at the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk, Poland, which led to the birth of the independent Solidarity trade union movement. This movement went on to play a crucial and contradictory role in the restoration of capitalist rule in Poland at end of the 1980s.

The initial issues that sparked the shipyards strike were wages and the sacking of a militant worker, Anna Walentinowicz. The strike quickly spread to other workplaces,

reflecting the widespread discontent with the system of bureaucratic “socialism” established in Poland in the late 1940s.

The authorities were forced to negotiate and, in an agreement signed at Gdansk on August 31, conceded a list of demands including the right to form independent trade unions. Solidarity was formally established as a trade union on September 17.

Solidarity developed into a mass social movement challenging Poland’s Stalinist regime. It was violently suppressed in December 1981 when martial law was declared by General Jaruzelski, who held the posts of Communist Party first secretary, prime minister and defence minister.

Remnants of the movement continued to organise illegally, re-emerging into legality in the late 1980s. The movement was then converted into a right-wing political party which won the elections in June 1989 and formed a government that set out to restore capitalism.

How did a movement that grew out of a working-class struggle against Stalinism become an agent of capitalist restoration?

Part of the answer lies in the ideological limitations of the leadership. Lech Walesa, the main leader of the Gdansk strike and subsequently the central leader of the union, was a militant worker, but also a socially conservative Catholic. The same was true of many other working-class activists in the union. The striking workers at Gdansk sang hymns and held mass in the shipyard.

Religious beliefs do not necessarily prevent political leaders from playing a progressive role. But the fact that the dominant section of Solidarity’s leadership belonged to a church committed to the defence of private property, and hailed its right-wing social teachings, was a problem. It became an even bigger problem when this leadership became the government of Poland and began to implement those teachings.

Another component of Solidarity’s leadership was a group of intellectuals who had been active in KOR (the Committee for the Defence of the Workers), an organisation that had carried out solidarity with workers’ struggles during the 1970s.

The key figure in this group was Jacek Kuron. In the 1960s he and Karol Modzelewski had called for the seizure of power by the working class. But by the time Solidarity was formed, Kuron had modified his ideas, replacing the perspective of revolutionary overthrow of the Stalinist bureaucracy with one of gradually reforming the state under pressure from mass organisations and struggles.

At that time, Kuron’s perspective was still one of reforming the socialist state rather than restoring capitalism. Pressure for reform came mainly from Solidarity, which was then a mass workers’ movement imbued with the idea that workers were entitled to control the factories and play a leading role in society.

But after this movement was crushed by Jaruzelski’s repression, Solidarity’s leadership (including both its Catholic and “leftist” components) adopted a perspective of capitalist restoration. (Kuron himself later became minister of labour in Walesa’s pro-capitalist

government). The adoption of a policy of capitalist restoration by Solidarity's leadership was made easier by the confused political outlook of most Solidarity activists.

During 1980-81, Solidarity grew to include 10 million members. The consciousness of the activists was mixed. They fought for immediate economic demands (e.g., wage rises) and democratic demands (e.g., freedom of speech). They also struggled for control of the factories, in many cases voting the factory directors out of office and replacing them with new ones.

These demands and struggles represented a progressive response to Stalinist bureaucratic rule. Yet there were also some less progressive elements in the workers' consciousness.

In addition to the socially conservative attitudes promoted by the Catholic church, many workers were impressed by the relative prosperity and democratic rights existing in the advanced capitalist countries and failed to see that the prosperity and freedom of a few imperialist countries is based on the exploitation and repression of people in the Third World.

Not understanding imperialism, they failed to solidarise with Third World struggles for national liberation. While expressing a general sympathy with workers everywhere, most did not take much interest in workers' struggles in the West. Solidarity's newspaper had hardly any international news.

Solidarity lacked a clear program and strategy for overthrowing the bureaucratic regime and creating a democratic worker-ruled society. The organisation's draft program made reference to socialism as one source of inspiration, along with Christianity and democracy.

Solidarity activists carried out a struggle for self-management in many workplaces, but did not have a clear understanding of the need for socialist planning.

They had illusions in the army, and did not make any serious effort to win over rank-and-file soldiers.

While Solidarity was not a consciously socialist organisation, neither was it consciously anti-socialist. As British academic Martin Myant observed in *Poland: a Crisis for Socialism* (1982): "It advocated equality and was particularly emphatic about the need for an adequate assured minimum income and an end to special privileges for a wealthy minority. Many of the specific demands were, even if the authors of the program avoided making the point, quite incompatible with capitalism."

During 1980-81, neither the government nor the leadership of Solidarity could have carried out a program of capitalist restoration, even if they had wanted to.

This was because the workers would not have allowed it. Workers in the factories were attempting to bring the enterprises under their own control, and would not have accepted handing them over to capitalist owners.

The crushing of this working-class upsurge created the conditions in which capitalist restoration could be carried out with little resistance a few years later.

In the demoralisation following martial law, pro-capitalist attitudes were able to become dominant in Polish society.

Today, there is a lot of discontent with the results of the restoration of capitalism in Poland and other former Stalinist-ruled states, but still no mass revolutionary parties with a clear socialist perspective.

A mass upsurge of working class and popular discontent is necessary but not sufficient.

A struggle to win the movement to a clear socialist perspective is necessary.

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.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Reactionary Zionist Mass
Movement Wins Big!
More Palestinian Territory To Be
Grabbed For Their Housing;
“Four Weeks Of Social Protest Has
Given The Government Added
Justification To Move Even Faster In
East Jerusalem”
“Construction ‘Can Be Justified In A
Different Way’”**

AUGUST 12, 2011 By JOSHUA MITNICK, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

TEL AVIV—Israel said it is advancing public construction projects for thousands of new homes in contested East Jerusalem in response to a wave of domestic protests over the cost of living, complicating U.S. efforts to restart peace talks and avert a United Nations vote on Palestinian statehood.

Israel is accelerating building plans to ease a housing shortage that has pushed real-estate prices up by more than a third in three years, triggering mass demonstrations nationwide and putting Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the defensive.

But Palestinians and most of the international community consider construction in East Jerusalem as Israeli settlement activity, which they say further imperils peace talks.

On Thursday, the Interior Ministry announced final planning approval for two separate neighborhoods totaling 2,200 homes.

Last week, Israel prompted a U.S. protest by approving nearly 1,000 homes near the border of Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Israel is also pushing to finish legal groundwork for a project of 2,000 units.

The government has been speeding up plans on several large-scale housing projects throughout Jerusalem for several months. The building announcement highlights how four weeks of social protest has given the government added justification to move even faster in East Jerusalem.

An aide to Israeli Interior Minister Eli Yishai said the project approvals in East Jerusalem are meant to satisfy the public outcry in Israel about a lack of affordable housing.

"We need to build in Jerusalem. There is no room in the center of Jerusalem, so we are building in these places," said spokesman Roei Lachmanovich.

Although building tenders have not been published for the projects, the Palestinian Authority on Thursday condemned the Israeli announcement as a "new aggression" and as evidence that Mr. Netanyahu is not genuinely interested in peace talks.

U.N. Middle East envoy Robert Serry said he was "alarmed" by the Israeli plans and called it a "provocative" action undermining international efforts to restart talks and avoid a confrontation over the U.N. vote.

The plans announced Thursday include final planning approval for 1,600 homes in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Ramat Shlomo, a building project whose initial approval in March 2010 opened a visit by Vice President Joe Biden. Peace Now, an Israeli group that opposes settlements, disputed that the project had received final authorization.

Last week, Israel gave final planning approval for 936 homes in the neighborhood of Har Homa, expanding the footprint of Jewish Jerusalem through open areas that abut the

Palestinian city of Bethlehem to the south. A state department official at the time said the U.S. is "deeply concerned" over construction in East Jerusalem.

Israel considers East Jerusalem, which it captured and annexed after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, part of its sovereign territory. The international community views Israeli building in East Jerusalem as settlement activity.

The East Jerusalem housing push is one of a series of government gestures in recent weeks to appease a protest movement that has brought hundreds of thousands of Israeli into the streets demanding government intervention to ease the high cost of living.

Housing in East Jerusalem accounts for more than 35% of projects in the city on which Israel's government is trying to speed up development.

"The acceleration was planned before, but now there's a tailwind of the social protests," said Sarah Kreimer, a director at Ir Amim, a group that promotes a shared Jerusalem but opposes Israeli development in East Jerusalem.

"Construction "can be justified in a different way."

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

MILITARY RESISTANCE NEWSLETTER BY MAIL FREE FOR ACTIVE DUTY TROOPS

**IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A SELECTION OF MILITARY RESISTANCE NEWSLETTERS MAILED TO YOU, EMAIL YOUR ADDRESS TO:
CONTACT@MILITARYPROJECT.ORG OR DROP A LINE TO: BOX 126, 2576
BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10025-5657 USA.**

Please say how many you wish sent.

NOTE WELL: They will all be different issues of Military Resistance to satisfy DOD regs that you may possess copies, *provided you don't have more than one of the same issue.*

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email contact@militaryproject.org

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

Yemen:
“Hundreds Of Thousands Of Anti-Government Protesters” Demand Dictator’s Resignation:

“We Want To See Saleh In Cage, To Be The Second Arab President To Be Tried By His Own People”



Anti-government protesters during a demonstration demanding the resignation of Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in the capital San'a. Associated Press

AUGUST 13, 2011 Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen—Hundreds of thousands of Yemenis poured into the streets of major cities and towns across the country on Friday, keeping the pressure on the nation's embattled president to step down.

The mass demonstrations in the capital, San'a, and at least 17 other cities and towns, including Taiz and Ibb, were the largest since President Ali Abdullah Saleh left a hospital in Saudi Arabia, where he was recovering from wounds suffered in a June attack on his palace compound, and signaled he intends to return home soon.

Yemen is reeling from nearly six months of protests by activists calling for an end to Mr. Saleh's 33 years in power.

The crisis has sparked armed conflict between Mr. Saleh's forces and heavily armed tribesmen who have turned against him, further destabilizing the already fragile and impoverished country.

On Friday, hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters defied the scorching summer weather and the dawn-to-dusk fasting hours during the holy month of Ramadan

to renew their demands for Mr. Saleh's resignation, waving Yemeni flags and chanting anti-regime slogans, according to witnesses.

Protest organizer Abdel Handi al-Azazi said that the high turnout for Friday's demonstrations sent a clear message to Saleh that "you will not return to the country whatever you do."

Mr. Al-Azazi said if Mr. Saleh does indeed return, the protest movement will push to have him put on trial.

"We want to see Saleh in cage, to be the second Arab president to be tried by his own people," he said.



Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

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

<http://williambowles.info/military-resistance-archives/>; news@uruknet.info;

http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/;

<http://www.albasrah.net/pages/mod.php?header=res1&mod=gis&rep=gis>

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to:

www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.