

Military Resistance 9/13

**“What This Says To Me
And Many Other Soldiers
Throughout The Army, Is
That Just Because
Someone Is Senior To
Them, Regardless Of
What Is Done, The
Junior Soldier Is Always
In The Wrong”**

**“Nobody Does Anything Without
Some Sort Of Selfish Reason
Behind It, And Who Is It That
Thinks Up, Writes, And Enacts
Army Regulations?”**

“It Is People With Rank, People Who Want More Power And Control”

“The Importance Of Military Customs And Courtesies Is Simply Control And The Protection And Satisfaction Of The Superior”

[Letters and articles from members of the armed services are welcome. T]

From: Marvin Parsons
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: New Article
Date: Sep 18, 2011

Army Regulation 600-20, the Army Command Policy, does not define respect, but uses it quite often.

Throughout this regulation, the word respect is used as a Verb, an action that is to be, is being, or has been done.

The definition of the verb form of respect is: “to show consideration for; treat courteously or kindly.”

What defines consideration, courteous and kind? Consideration is defined as “a thought or reflection; an opinion based upon reflection.” I would like to point out here that it is an OPINION based upon personal reflection. Courtesy is defined as “having or showing good manners; polite.” Again, mannerisms are merely personal interpretations, or opinions, of interpersonal interactions.

Kindly is defined as “pleasant, mild, or agreeable.”

These are the definitions that will be kept in mind throughout this correspondence.

The one other thing that is pertinent to being pointed out is an excerpt from Chapter 4-1 b, which states “by deference to seniors and mutual respect between senior and subordinate personnel”. Deference is defined as “respectful submission or yielding to the judgment, opinion, will, etc., of another.”

In this case, “another” being someone who simply out ranks another, yet right after stating that one who is subordinate should submit to the will and opinion of the senior, it states that there should be mutual respect between both parties.

This alone states the issue within the military.

Just because one is senior to another, the seniors "opinions" are of higher value and are of more concern than those of a subordinate, which defies the definition of respect.

What this says to me and many other Soldiers throughout the Army, is that just because someone is senior to them, regardless of what is done, the junior Soldier is always in the wrong.

That is exactly what this says, especially should a Soldier stand up for him/her self, their peers, their subordinates, or voice their opinions as to what happened during an interaction.

I would like to bring the instance for which I am writing this report. Before this incident, there was an issue in Delta Troop, 5-4 Cavalry in which I defended myself against harassment from a Senior Noncommissioned Officer.

That particular action of defense took place after utilizing all the resources available to me, including Inspector General, Legal, Chaplain and Open Door Policies, none of which had any returns other than, "he is well within his rights as a senior."

After a large defense and an appeal, I was still found guilty of several accusations written on an Article 15 that were not true.

My fight against the harassment was well known through the company, and both 5-4 Squadron and 299th Brigade Support Battalion.

When I was approached with the first phrase, coming around to this situation, with "I know who you are," this felt like an attack.

Since by definition, respect, after being deducted, is about perception and opinion. This was disrespectful to me, especially after choosing to sit in a location that was secluded from the rest of the inhabitants at the DFAC; I was followed and "called out" in the middle of the DFAC in front of all the patrons there, military, civilian and contractor alike.

The reason I bring up the past situation in reference to the current situation, is the reason based off of the definitions of respect and the military mandate to defer simply because of someone's rank.

My experiences, which make up my values and interpretations of situations, is different from the other person involved in the situation, but simply because he out ranked me, my experiences and opinions of the interaction are looked at as wrong, and therefore so are the actions I took in response to this perceived attack.

This is to lead up to the point and purpose of this report, the importance of military customs and courtesies.

Again, just like any part of any Army Regulation or law, this is left to interpretation. A commander or senior Noncommissioned Officer may say that it is necessary for the proper function of military operations.

This, however, is not my interpretation of the importance of customs and courtesies.

The importance lies simply in the fascist power of the senior leadership so that they are not challenged or questioned without punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The purpose is to control the masses of Soldiers, all of which have different views, opinions and experiences, under the single mind of a leader who is intolerant of that, and chooses only to run operations based solely on their own opinions and experiences, making the subordinates opinions and feelings null and void in nearly all situations.

To add to this, I would like to point out another excerpt from Army Regulation 600-20 Chapter 4-1 b, "prompt and willing execution of both the letter and the spirit of the legal orders of their lawful commanders."

What defines a legal order?

As far as I can tell in my research, there is no set definition of a legal order, also known as a lawful order.

There are extraordinary cases, where obeying certain orders were obviously illegal, such as torturing of prisoners of war, but what smaller offenses can this apply to?

Therefore, with no definition of legal order, it goes back to what was previously discussed, did it "seem right" to the superior?

If the superior ordered it, then it obviously did.

Does it matter if the subordinate does not agree with the order on more of a level than he or she simply did not like it; such as on a basis of religious or personal values or opinions on why the order is being made or as to how the order is being carried out?

According to Article 90, Explanation (2) (a) (iii), of the Uniform Code of Military Justice; "The order may not, without such a valid military purpose, interfere with private rights or personal affairs. However, the dictates of a person's conscience, religion, or personal philosophy cannot justify or excuse the disobedience of an otherwise lawful order."

So, according to this, it doesn't matter if an order offends or presents an intrapersonal conflict, as long as the superior who gave the order can simply claim in even the most obscure way, that it was for "the betterment of the mission."

The importance of military customs and courtesies is simply control and the protection and satisfaction of the superior. The previous covers Chapters 4-1 through 4-3.

Now I will focus on reading further into the chapter.

In Chapter 4-4, the regulation discusses Soldier conduct. Chapter 4-4 (a) says “Ensuring the proper conduct of Soldiers is a function of command. Commanders and leaders in the Army, whether on or off duty or in a leave status, will—(1) Ensure all military personnel present a neat, soldierly appearance. (2) Take action consistent with Army regulation in any case where a Soldier’s conduct violates good order and military discipline.”

It’s already been stated how subjective “Army regulation” is to interpretation, so I will not go into this again.

I want to look at the phrases “good order” and “military discipline.”

In the way it’s used here, order is defined as “a condition in which each thing is properly disposed with reference to other things and to its purpose; methodical or harmonious arrangement,” another form of absolute control.

According to this, it is Commanders and Leaders responsibility to make sure the everyone is exactly the same, to ensure that everyone has the same views, and that those who do not, are “converted” to the leadership’s way of thinking.

To top all this off, I want to point out the definition of discipline; “behavior in accord with rules of conduct; behavior and order maintained by training and control.”

By this definition, discipline can be actively interchanged with the word control, “where a Soldier’s conduct violates (acceptable conformance) and military (control).”

Paragraph 4-4 (b) through (d) and 4-5 give leadership the authority to involve, not only military police, but also civilian law enforcement to detain Soldiers who show “disrespect” to the Army or any of its operations, regardless of where the action is occurring.

Chapter 4-6 is a play on words, to further exercise control over subordinates. Chapter 4-6 b (1) states “Such measures assume the nature of training or instruction, not punishment. Corrective training should continue only until the training deficiency is overcome. Authority to use it is part of the inherent powers of command.”

By inherent definition, corrective training is, indeed, punishment. It is extra training related to a deficiency: A punishment for not conforming to a controlled fascist mind-state where a junior service member’s opinions, thoughts and feelings mean nothing.

For example, barracks rooms are expected to be kept in an unrealistically, museum like state.

What really is the purpose of this other than simply exacting complete control over individuals and masses?

Chapter 4-7 further explains the Commanders ability under regulation as per disciplinary action. It states, "Commanding officers exercise broad disciplinary powers in furtherance of their command responsibilities. Discretion, fairness, and sound judgment are essential ingredients of military justice."

We see here again, the use of words that refer back to the seniors opinions. Discretion, fairness and sound judgment are all subjective words that leave open the ability of the commander to distribute disciplinary action at whim for any type of minor infraction as long as he says he sees it as fair.

Who determines what fair is? Fair actually has two definitions that can be fit in here. One being, "free from bias, dishonesty, or injustice:" and the other being, "marked by favoring conditions; likely; promising."

No decision is made without a bias; therefore this cannot be truly upheld.

Just as stated previously, all regulations are written in such a vague way that leaves everything open for interpretation.

Let's use my situation for example. It was perceived that I was being disrespectful, when in all actuality, I was mitigating the situation. Therefore, when the counseling was written, it was not written in a non-biased fashion or from a non-biased point of view, but from the point of view of someone who is senior to myself and has the regulation behind them that states, as a junior, I should submit myself to whatever is said, regardless of my views, beliefs or feelings.

How is this in anyway fair to anyone other than the senior person in the situation?

To push this point home further, Army Regulation 27-10 Chapters 3-7 and 3-8 describe what a "command" is and what defines being "under a command." The regulation is so worded that a Soldier could be punished with an Article 15 by a Warrant Officer Grade One placed in charge of a five Soldier detail. This gives total command and control at even the lowest of details.

In Field Manual 6-22, Army Leadership, Chapter 3-63, "Ultimately, the discussion must conclude and the team chief should accept a superior's final decision. From that point on, the team chief must support that decision and execute it to the highest of standards. Just imagine what chaos would engulf an organization if subordinates chose freely which orders to obey and which to ignore. In the end, it is important for all leaders to preserve trust and confidence in the chain of command and the collective abilities of the organization."

Here it states that a subordinate **MUST** support a decision, even if the subordinate knows that it will hinder the mission or that another way will improve the mission in all aspects, simply because someone who gets paid more says to do so.

This is the exact opposite of progress, which is what the military claims to try to proclaim.

Chapter 4-1 states: “a person’s moral and ethical qualities, helps determine what is right and gives a leader motivation to do what is appropriate, regardless of the circumstances or the consequences. An informed ethical conscience consistent with the Army Values...”

This means, regardless of all the talk they give about diversity, everyone is expected to have the same values, those established by a fascist regime or destruction and dictatorship focused only on power and obedience.

This states that all leaders are expected to hold the exact same idea, and to therefore, pass those beliefs, values, opinions, and ideas on to the junior Soldiers. How is this diverse and tolerant?

Further, in Chapter 4-4, it states “The factors, internal and central to a leader, which make up the leader’s core are— Army Values. Empathy. Warrior Ethos.”

Two of the three require a person to disregard and change their own personal core values, beliefs and dedications and to submit to those of a military superpower.

With those two, how is empathy even possible?

It is not possible, and is merely a word put on paper to look good.

What this says to me is that in order to be a good Soldier or leader, you must abandon who you are and become someone else.

Respect, as part of the Army Values, is defined in Chapter 4-18, as, “treat people as they should be treated.”

This is highly subjective, especially considering the fact that it goes on, in the same section, to explain that the Army is more diverse than ever.

This diversity means that everyone has a different idea as to how people should be treated.

Values and beliefs come from how we were raised and fostered, as described in Chapter 4-5. Fact being we are all not raised with the same values and beliefs would seem that this is an impossible feat to achieve.

For example, Christians are raised to believe that Pagan Practitioners are “Devil Worshipers” and deserve nothing more than to be smitten by their “Gods” wrath, and that they are on this earth to do the work of their God.

This statement alone proves this to be a completely implausible group of words intended only as a good idea of something that can never be achieved.

How do they work around this to “stone” these Soldiers they don’t agree with or like because of personal opinions, beliefs and values?

“Within the scope of regulation,” as it was put by the Inspector General when I submitted my complaint against a Senior Noncommissioned Officer after only three days of investigation and a single call to the Commander.

This leader is in a position of power, and has the ability to pick and chose what kind of work is to be done and who is to do it.

So, what is the importance of military customs and courtesies?

It’s simply put in Army Regulation 600-20 Chapter 4-2: “All persons in the military service are required to strictly obey and promptly execute the legal orders of their lawful seniors.”

The purpose is complete and total control through enforcing and encouraging a submissive following by anyone who simply makes less money, regardless of personal feelings, beliefs or values of the subordinate, and to provide disciplinary action for any and all persons who would stand up and voice the fascism and class based hierarchy that has consumed and controlled the Army.

Nobody does anything without some sort of selfish reason behind it, and who is it that thinks up, writes, and enacts Army Regulations?

It is people with rank, people who want more power and control.

If you don’t submit to the will, belief, thoughts, opinions and views of the next higher grade, you will be punished.

This is the essence of the formalities of military customs and courtesies, such as not voicing an opinion, or allowing someone to be pressured into something because they are junior and are told their beliefs don’t matter if it gets in the way of the mission.

Comment from: Sandy Kelson, Veteran & Military Resistance Organization:

“The same system applies to civil society in USA and elsewhere.”

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

Sept 18 (Reuters) & Sept 20 (Reuters)

KIRKUK - Insurgents in a car opened fire on a police foot patrol, killing one policeman and wounded two others in central Kirkuk, 250 km (155 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

MOSUL - Insurgents shot dead a policeman at a checkpoint in central Mosul, 390 km (240 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

SHIRQAT - A government-backed militia member was shot dead by insurgents targeting the militia's checkpoint, on Sunday, in Shirqat, 300 km (190 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

BAGHDAD - A parked car bomb targeting a federal police patrol wounded six policemen in Baghdad's southern Saidiya district, a federal police source said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Alabama SSG Killed In Uruzgan



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Michael W. Hosey, 27, died Sept. 17 in Uruzgan province, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire. Hosey, from Birmingham, Ala., was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan Sunday:

Nationality Not Announced

September 18, 2011 AP

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

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

September 18, 2011 AP

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

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

September 19, 2011 AP

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

Okmulgee Family Honors Fallen Soldier

09/13/2011 KJRH

OKMULGEE, Okla - Private First Class Tony Potter, Jr. was killed in Afghanistan on Friday, along with two other Oklahoma National Guard members. On Tuesday, his parents sat down with 2NEWS to share memories of their son.

"I couldn't ask for a better son," says Tony Potter, Sr. He calls his son the very part of himself.

Born three months too early, Potter, Sr. says his son, known as T.J., wasn't the biggest kid in his class. But he was all heart and determination, "He was a fighter. He fought through everything. He excelled at everything that he did. I'm was so proud of him - I still am."

The Okmulgee High School football player accomplished a lot in 20 years. He took his football team to the state championship. He also married his high school sweetheart, Emily Potter. She is expecting the couple's first baby.

Despite his parent's objection, Tony Potter, Sr. says T.J. always wanted to be a soldier. He enlisted in the National Guard before graduation.

His mother, Yvonne Potter, says he watch movies and documentaries about the war, because he wanted to be prepared when he deployed. T.J. had been in Afghanistan just two months before he was killed. According the Oklahoma National Guard, Potter is the youngest member to die in battle over the past decade.

"He was the rock of the family. He held everyone together," says Yvonne Potter. Potter, Sr. adds, "If he felt like we were drifting apart, he would bring us back together. He was our glue. You could always count on him for everything. For this to happen to him - it's just not right. I want my son back"

Friday night is Homecoming for Okmulgee High School. During a special half-time show in the slain soldier's honor, the school will retire his jersey number.

A fund has been set up to help Potter's family. Donations can be made to the Tony Potter Memorial Fund at First National Bank and Trust of Okmulgee.

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

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

**And The Award For Lying Bullshit Of The
Year So Far Goes To**

September 19, 2011 NZN/Newstalk ZB

New Zealand soldiers patrolling in central Afghanistan have been attacked with rocket-propelled grenades.

The Provincial Reconstruction Team troops were attacked in the northeast of Bamiyan province shortly after midnight local time (8am NZT) today.

The Defence Force says the soldiers were in light armoured vehicles and none were injured.

But one of their vehicles was damaged when it hit a bank while taking evasive action.

A spokesman says the patrol extracted themselves from the immediate area and are now secure.

Commander Joint Forces Major General Dave Gawn says the level of danger for the soldiers is high at this time of year, and the Defence Force will monitor threat levels to ensure soldiers are kept safe.

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 email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

REALLY BAD PLACE TO BE: ALL HOME NOW



In this Aug. 24, 2011 photo, a U.S. Marine sniper wipes sweat from his eyes as his spotter looks for concealed militants, at Patrol Base 302, in the Gesresk Valley, Helmand province, southern Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Brennan)



A U.S. Marine of 3rd Platoon, Kilo Company, 3/4 Marines, covers other Marines carrying boxes of U.S. Mail into their small outpost, Patrol Base 302, in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, Aug. 26, 2011. The Marines living in austere conditions at PB-302 exchange fire regularly with Taliban who attack from multiple directions. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)



Pfc. Garrick Carlton, 21, center, of Sacramento, Calif., with the U.S. Army's Bravo Company of the 25th Infantry Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry Regiment based in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, moves past burning rubbish to a hilltop observation post along with Pfc. Michael Tompkins, 20, of Wadsworth, Ohio, left, and Pfc. Austin D'Amica, 20, of San Diego, Calif., Sept. 10, 2011 at Combat Outpost Monti in Kunar province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/David Goldman)



Spc. Craig Mueller, 27, of Breese, Ill., with the U.S. Army's Bravo Company of the 25th Infantry Division, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Battalion 27th Infantry Regiment based in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, moving up to a hilltop observation post Sept. 10, 2011 at Combat Outpost Monti in Kunar province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/David Goldman)...

LIBYA WAR REPORTS

**“This Has Been A
Thoroughgoing Popular
Revolution”**

**“The Same Sense Of
Empowerment, Of Imagining The
Impossible, That Pervaded Egypt
After Its Revolution Exists Here”**

**“The U.S.-Backed NTC Is Quite Weak
And Has Limited Popular Support”**

“The U.S. And Its Allies Continue To Try To Subordinate The Revolution To Their Interests”



A wall in Tripoli, Libya, Sept. 12, 2011. (AP Photo/Francois Mori)

September 20, 2011, Readers' Views, Socialist Worker

FROM: A WRITER IN TRIPOLI [LIBYA]

A RECENT editorial SocialistWorker.org editorial ("Who really won in Libya") suggested that it was NATO that, in fact, won the revolution in Libya, not the Libyan people.

From here in Tripoli, it seems that that judgment is rushed.

There are a number of points that should be understood about the situation on the ground:

1. This has been a thoroughgoing popular revolution.

Tripoli was not liberated by outside rebels.

Rather, a popular uprising started from within, on August 20, in a number of neighborhoods across the city.

By midday on the 21st, the state security apparatus had been defeated completely in a number of neighborhoods, and was crumbling in others. By the evening of the 21st, the first brigades of rebels reached the city, and fought through the remaining strongholds.

The driving force of the revolution in every crucial juncture has been mass participation, whether in the initial uprisings in Benghazi and the western city of Zintan, or in and around Tripoli.

Today, the streets of Tripoli are ruled by ordinary people.

Every neighborhood has a popular committee, consisting of armed locals.

They control the entry and exit points to their neighborhood, check vehicles, and, in the absence of police forces (who have only just begun to return) act as the de facto authority on the street level.

As one Libyan friend told me, "Everything is upside down now."

Locals have laid bare most of the old centers of ruling class power, from security offices to Qaddafi's palaces.

You can spend afternoons strolling through Qaddafi's villas and sifting through papers in intelligence headquarters. Locals have taken over some of Qaddafi's houses and prisons and turned them into museums of sorts.

The massive swimming pool in the house of Aisha Qaddafi, built with money that rightfully belongs to ordinary Libyans, has been turned into a public pool.

In some neighborhoods, residents have taken over hotels and restaurants, kicking out the pro-Qaddafi owners and running it themselves.

The same sense of empowerment, of imagining the impossible, that pervaded Egypt after its revolution exists here.

2. There are a number of forces vying for leadership of the revolution.

These include: 1) Revolutionary leaders in Tripoli who have been directing the movement there since day one, in February, often with little direct contact with NATO; 2) Revolutionaries from Tripoli who have been based outside, in Benghazi, Tunisia or further abroad, and who are returning; 3) Islamist currents, led by prominent clerics; 4) The Benghazi-based, U.S.-backed National Transitional Council (NTC), and particularly the cabinet-like Executive Committee; 5) The Tripoli military forces, themselves split into two factions, one under the command of ex-Islamist Abdel Hakim Belhaj and the other under the control of ex-Qaddafi figures. Belhaj, who was imprisoned and tortured due to the collusion of the U.S. and Qaddafi, has some popular support in eastern Libya, and is believed to be backed by Qatar 6) About 40 rebel kataibas, or brigades, from around the country.

Most of these kataibas are organized based on the town of origin or tribe, and are usually independently financed.

In a number of cases, they are backed by wealthy businessmen from outside the country.

The kataibas have mostly resisted coming under the authority of any of the above-mentioned groups--the Misrata brigade, for instance, has taken over some neighborhoods in Tripoli, sparking tensions with locals.

It is entirely unclear which of these forces will win out.

The U.S.-backed NTC is quite weak and has limited popular support.

Demonstrations against it have already erupted in a number of cities, including Benghazi.

As of mid-September, the NTC is still competing with a wide array of rebel groups and political factions for control of the country.

At the same time, despite its cozy relationship with the West, the NTC leadership was forced to come out against a UN security force on the ground, in large measure a nod to the popular pressures that exist.

3. The fractured nature of the rebel forces is a direct consequence of Qaddafi's rule.

Buoyed by oil money, Qaddafi was able to maintain power without developing the sorts of political institutions that are common in other states.

There was no ruling party in Libya, a very small bureaucracy and a weak, divided army.

Instead, power in Qaddafi's Libya was largely informal and mediated through patronage networks, in which the Brother Leader sat in the middle.

The base of the ruling class was extremely narrow--certain tribes, Qaddafi family members and a constellation of security agencies were the main beneficiaries of the oil largesse.

Even when the country took a neoliberal turn after 1999, the opening of the economy only benefited a narrow slice of the ruling class.

It is for these reasons that, unlike the revolutions of Egypt, Tunisia and Syria (but somewhat like that of Yemen), a section of the ruling class broke with the state to lead the revolution.

But this section of the national bourgeoisie--in particular, ex-generals, ministers and prominent businessmen, together with the middle class (doctors, lawyers and the like)--relies entirely on the popular upsurge beneath them.

That upsurge is also rooted in the specifics of Qaddafi's rule.

The economy is extremely un-diversified--even four decades into his rule, oil remains the country's primary economic activity.

Aside from a few token development projects, the majority of state spending was on maintaining its patronage networks or on foreign adventures.

This has led to an extremely tiny working class--far smaller than the neighbors Egypt and Tunisia.

(The oil sector itself is heavily reliant on foreign labor and expertise, and most consumer goods in Libya are imported.)

At the same time, life under Qaddafi grew increasingly difficult.

Wages were by and large frozen at 1980s levels, even as rents and food prices skyrocketed; some state subsidies were slashed under neoliberalization; the lingering effects of the UN-backed sanctions regime of the 1990s has left the oil sector in dire need of an upgrade; and the state remained as repressive as ever.

These factors ultimately led to the revolution.

But unlike Egypt and Tunisia, the lack of a strong working class (either numerically or politically), the dearth of political parties and the absence civil society led the struggle to become an armed one. It was under the command of a section of the old ruling class, but in a haphazard way--rebellious youth joined revolutionary groups based on their tribe or hometown or whichever businessman could give them guns and vehicles.

The political level of the rebels is quite low--hence the vicious racism that plagues the rebel victory.

4. Despite the popular nature of the revolution, the weakness of political structures in Libya means the prospects of a left wing emerging from it are exceedingly dim.

However, they were even dimmer under Qaddafi, and the revolution gives Libyan society the space for such things to develop.

It may not come soon--it would require a restructuring of the economy, a growth of the working class and so on--but for the first time in its history, Libya has a chance.

For that reason alone, the revolution should be supported. Moreover, the victory has breathed new life into the uprisings throughout the Arab world, particularly in Syria and Yemen.

It is possible, however, that the forces that eventually emerge on top will continue things in the Qaddafi mold.

It's far too early to say who will be the ultimate winner of Libya's revolution, but we do know who will attempt to determine the outcome.

The U.S. and its allies continue to try to subordinate the revolution to their interests.

They have backed a section of the rebels that seems to lack a national base, in an effort the control the course of the Arab revolutions.

They aren't interested in a genuine democracy, but in a limited, managed democracy that is subservient to their needs.

The main task for activists in the U.S. is to confront this reality, and help give the Libyan revolution space to grow.

MILITARY NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



The remains of Marine Cpl. Michael J. Dutcher of Asheville, N.C., at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Sept. 17, 2011. Dutcher was killed by an improvised explosive device in the Sangin district of Helmand Province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)...

“Talk Swirls Of Holding Down Military Pay Raises, Boosting Health Care Fees, Overhauling Retirement Benefits”

Troops “Do Not Deserve To Be A Convenient Target For Deep Cuts That Are More Difficult To Impose On Others

Who Enjoy Better Political Influence And Protection”

September 19, 2011 Editorial, Army Times [Excerpts]

Since Military Times began publishing its annual poll in 2004, troops on active duty have consistently reported a fairly high level of morale.

But that fairly stable trend line took a hard turn in the 2011 edition of the poll, with troops showing much more unease on a variety of morale indicators.

For starters, the percentage of active-duty troops who would recommend a military career to others was 76 percent, down 9 per-centage points from 2010.

Other declines were even starker.

The percentage of troops who say their pay and allowances are “good” or “excellent” plunged from 87 percent to 60 percent.

And satisfaction with overall quality of life dropped from 90 percent last year to 67 percent this year.

Military morale is a fragile commodity. Once damaged, it is difficult and costly to repair — as the Pentagon and Congress learned as recently as the late 1990s, when benefits cuts had troops fleeing service in droves.

As talk swirls of holding down military pay raises, boosting health care fees, overhauling retirement benefits and cutting end strength, lawmakers should heed that recent lesson of history.

Troops accept that they must share in the pain of a nation undergoing economic recovery. But they already make sacrifices far beyond anything required of the rest of society and do not deserve to be a convenient target for deep cuts that are more difficult to impose on others who enjoy better political influence and protection.

Troops and their families have earned, and are owed, continued support for fair compensation and good quality of life.

“The Idea Of Allowing Officers To Carry A Personally Owned Weapon Simply Because They Are Officers Is Ludicrous”

Letters To The Editor
Army Times
September 19, 2011

This letter is in response to "Officers and sidearms," Sept. 5.

The idea of allowing officers to carry a personally owned weapon simply because they are officers is ludicrous. In fact, the Fort Hood, Texas, shooting was (allegedly, as it hasn't gone to court yet) committed by an officer.

I do support the idea of allowing soldiers to carry on post, but this must be tempered with training, oversight, and legal and accountability requirements. Nowhere did the letter address any of these other than "existing state laws."

The last thing I want in my company area is a couple of 22- or 23-year-old lieutenants running around with pistols just because they are officers.

Master Sgt. Brady Marshall
Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

There's A New Form Of Saluting In Afghanistan



Sept. 8, 2011: U.S. Marines carry an injured colleague to a Medevac helicopter belonging to the U.S. Army's Task Force Lift "Dust Off", Charlie Company 1-171 Aviation Regiment after he was injured in a roadside bomb in the Helmand Province of southern Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Rafiq Maqbool)

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 and economic injustice, 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

ANNIVERSARIES

September 20, 1830: Honorable Anniversary



Richard Allen

Carl Bunin Peace History September 17-23

The National Negro Convention, a group of 38 free black Americans from eight states, met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with the express purpose of abolishing slavery and improving the social status of African Americans.

They elected Richard Allen president and agreed to boycott slave-produced goods and encourage free-produce organizations. The most active would be the Colored

Female Free Produce Society, which urged the boycott of all slave-produced goods.

The Encyclopedia of African-American Heritage, by Susan Altman, Copyright 1997, Facts on File, Inc. New York [Excerpt]

September 20, 1830

On this date in 1830, the National Negro Convention met in Philadelphia, PA. This group gathered for the express purpose of abolishing slavery and improving the status of African Americans.

This first meeting of the National Negro Convention would initiate a trend that would continue for the next three decades.

The formation of another organization had been recommended one which would be called the "American Society of Free Persons of Labor." This group would branch out to several states and hold their own conventions.

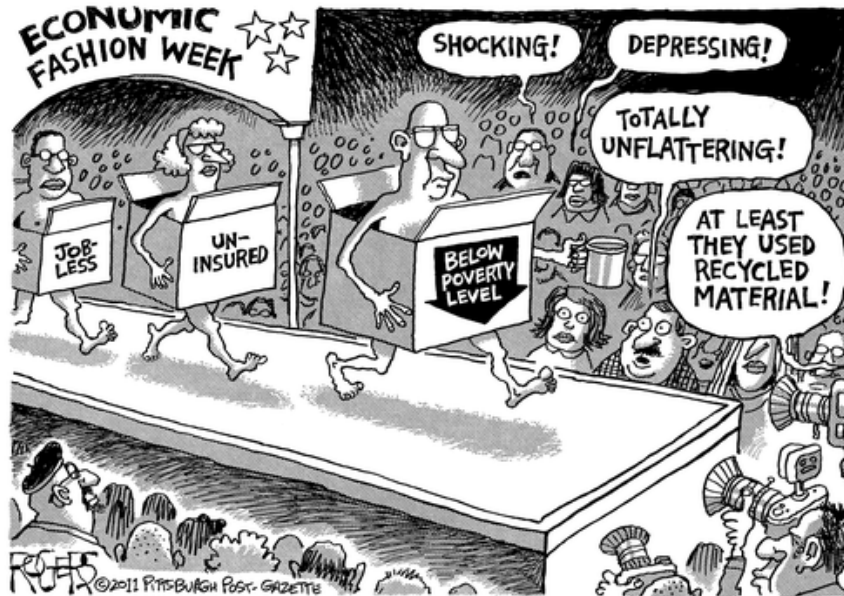
These, in turn, would lead to the formation of other organizations. The number of conventions, held at local, state, and national levels, blossomed to such a level that, in 1859, one paper would report that "colored conventions are almost as frequent as church meetings."

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



"Of course I was in the plane's lavatory for a long time! Ever had an airport chili dog?!"

CLASS WAR REPORTS



Comment Unnecessary



Amnesty International activists demonstrate in support of death row inmate Troy Davis, Sept. 16, 2011. Georgia corrections officials have set a Sept. 21, 2011 execution date

for Davis, for the 1989 killing of a Savannah, Georgia security guard. Davis has drawn worldwide support, from the Vatican to the European Union, from President Jimmy Carter to Pope Benedict XVI. (AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

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 email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/>

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 and all other forms of injustice inside the armed forces.

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

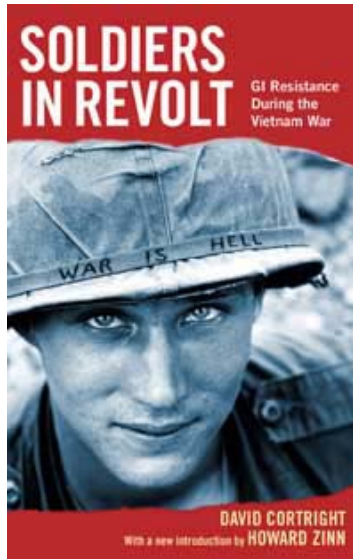
We hope that you'll build a network of active duty organizers.

“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.”

Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

FREE TO ACTIVE DUTY WHO WANT ONE:

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



SOLDIERS IN REVOLT: DAVID CORTRIGHT, Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, New York

**[CIVILIANS: \$16 INCLUDING POSTAGE:
BUY ONE FOR A FRIEND/RELATIVE IN THE SERVICE.
CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO: THE MILITARY PROJECT]**

**Requests from active duty or
orders from civilians to:
Military Resistance
Box 126
2576 Broadway
New York, N.Y.
10025-5657**

**Spread The Word:
Copies Of Military Resistance Newsletter Free On
Request**

If you have some good use in mind for a package of Military Resistance newsletters, email CONTACT@MILITARYPROJECT.ORG with a mailing address, an indication of how many you need, and how they will be used.

Military Resistance www.militaryproject.org

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



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

IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE RESISTANCE END THE OCCUPATIONS

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.