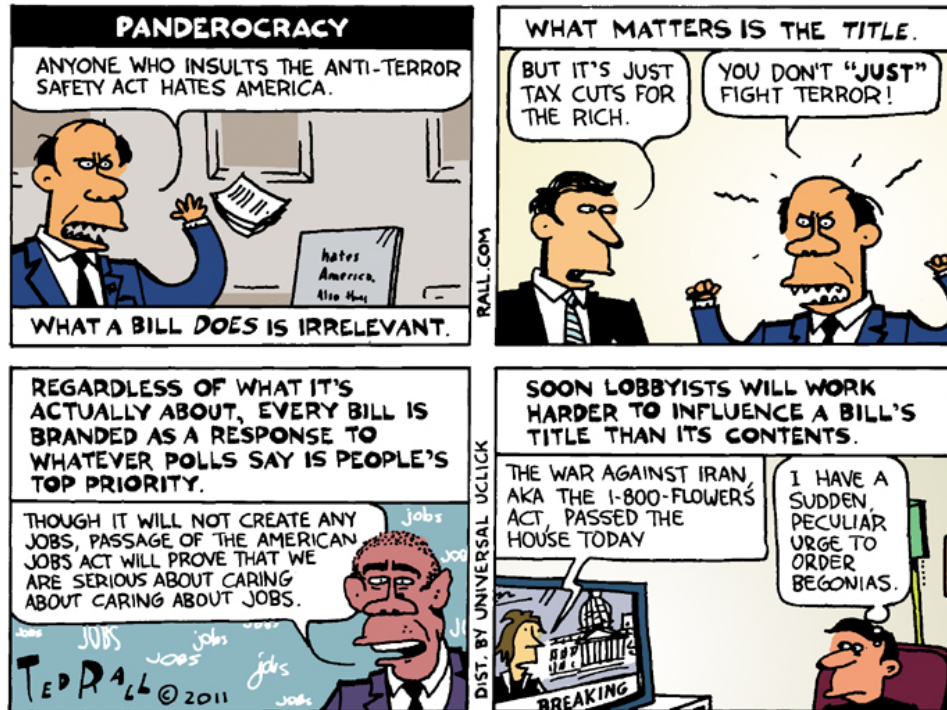


Military Resistance 9J2



**MILITARY EXEMPT FROM
FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT:
This Decision "Made Headroom For
The Military To Continually Treat It's
Service Members, Who Volunteered
Under The Impression That They
Would Be Taken Care Of, Like
Nothing More Than A Piece Of Meat,
A Number"**

“The People In Power Couldn’t Care Less About Those On The Lower End Of The Spectrum, As Long As They Make Their Paycheck And Protect Their Interests”

[More letters and articles from members of the armed services are invited. T]

From: Marvin Parsons
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Subject: Military Exempt from Federal Tort Claims Act,
Soldiers can't sue the United States Government...FOR ANYTHING!
Date: October 1, 2011

The Federal Tort Claims Act was enacted in 1946 to set standards under which The People could file suit against the Federal Government.

However, soon after, three cases were heard, and lost, against a death or injury by negligence, of someone who was on active duty.

On December 4, 1950, less than two months after the suit was filed, the Supreme Court found the Government not liable for the negligent death of this Service Member.

Though this was the first, there were three others, around the same time frame, that were also equally negligent and hideous, yet the Supreme Courts threw out all the cases.

One in which, 8 months after an abdominal surgery, Plaintiff, Jackson, had another surgery which discovered a 30 inch by 18 inch towel left inside his stomach, marked, “Medical Department US Army.”

The third, Jefferson v. United States, a Lieutenant Colonel was ordered to a hospital where he underwent surgery and care, when he died due to negligence.

The information for the cases: Feres, Executrix, v. United States, 340 US 135 – Supreme Court (1950); Griggs v. United States, 178 F. 2d 1 – Court of Appeals (1950); Jefferson v. United States, 77 F. Supp. 706 – District Court, D. Maryland (1948).

All three of these Service Members were a member of the United States Army.

The Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. 1346, states this in A(2):

“Any other civil action or claim against the United States, not exceeding \$10,000 in amount, founded either upon the Constitution, or any Act of Congress, or any regulation of an executive department, or upon any express or implied contract with the United States, or for liquidated or un-liquidated damages in cases not sounding in tort, except

that the district courts shall not have jurisdiction of any civil action or claim against the United States founded upon any express or implied contract with the United States or for liquidated or un-liquidated damages in cases not sounding in tort which are subject to sections 8(g)(1) and 10(a)(1) of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978.

For the purpose of this paragraph, an express or implied contract with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Navy Exchanges, Marine Corps Exchanges, Coast Guard Exchanges, or Exchange Councils of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall be considered an express or implied contract with the United States.”

This specifically exempts the military from such lawsuits, regardless of what the accusation is.

If you are under a contract with the United States Government, neither you, nor your executor, can sue the United States Government.

In the United States, other than Government Contracts, any other company or affiliation a person contracts with, can sue said company or affiliation.

What makes the government so special that its employees cannot sue them?

It's because they are the ones that make the laws, not the people.

This removes any system of checks and balances between the United States Armed Forces and it's civil counterpart.

This has made headroom for the military to continually treat it's service members, who volunteered under the impression that they would be taken care of, like nothing more than a piece of meat, a number.

It has long been known that Military Health Care "Professionals" are substandard in their techniques and procedures. Why are they so careless in their practices? The Government allows them to be. They know they won't have their medical license revoked, they know they won't have to deal with malpractice suits, and they can sit back, collect a paycheck, and be lazy and sloppy with their jobs, taking care of what many think are Americas Finest.

If we are the finest, they why are we given such substandard services and conditions?

Why are we given no way or opportunity to defend ourselves or gain repercussions for the otherwise illegal and immoral activities committed against us?

It's because the government that controls us, protects itself, rather than the people, and the select few who serve to "defend" that government.

The people in power couldn't care less about those on the lower end of the spectrum, as long as they make their paycheck and protect their interests.

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

Oct 1 (KUNA) & Oct 02, 2011 Al Arabiya News

An Iraqi army officer was killed Saturday when his booby-trapped car exploded northern Mosul, security source revealed. The source told KUNA that the bomb, stuck to the car, detonated when the officer tried to operate it, killing him on spot.

In Baghdad, a policeman was killed in a militant attack on a leader of Sahwa forces in Diyala. A policeman, was injured in the assault and taken to a nearby hospital.

Two Sahwa, or Awakening Council, pro-government fighters were initially killed when their car was struck by a roadside bomb at around 9:30 am (0630 GMT) in the al-Nibaie area, north of the town of Mashaada, 30 kilometers (18 miles) from the capital, police First Lieutenant Uday Sarhan said. When two other Sahwa fighters rushed to the scene of the blast, their vehicle was hit by another roadside bomb, killing both of the car's passengers. There had been no wounded from the two explosions.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

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

Nationality Not Announced

October 2, 2011 Reuters

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

Local Marine Killed In Afghanistan

October 1, 2011 KOAT

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. -- A 2003 La Cueva graduate was killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan on Wednesday.

Family friends said it was 27-year-old Christopher Diaz's first tour of duty in the war-torn country.

"Its been very, very hard," family friend Pamela Garcia said. "You hear about it, but you don't think it is going to touch home -- but it really does."

Diaz's mother and her husband traveled from El Paso, Texas, to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware to retrieve their son.

"He's one of the greatest people I've ever met," friend Joseph Garcia said. "It's hard talking about him."

Friends said Diaz leaves behind his mother, father, two brothers and a young son and daughter.

Ecorse Soldier Chazray Clark Killed In Afghanistan's Kandahar Province

20 Sep 2011 By ANDREA ISOM, WJBK

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. - 24-year-old Army Specialist Chazray Clark of Ecorse was a combat engineer fighting for our freedom overseas. The soldier's unit was paroling Afghanistan's Kandahar Province when they ran over an IED. Clark died on September 18.

"They showed up at my door and I knew what that means," said Christina Clark, his wife. "Kind of hard to believe that he's not coming home to me or to his family, and he was such a good man. He loved us so much."

“He wanted to make sure that I was going to be strong enough to deal with it if this happened,” said Keyko Clark, his mother. “Whose not going to grieve being a mom losing a kid, but I reassured him it will be okay. I will be okay.”

“I know he’s with God and that he died for his country, and he was a proud soldier. He loved what he did, and I really loved him,” Christina Clark told FOX 2’s Andrea Isom. “He was brave enough to go over there and fight for our country so we could be free, and he died for that.”

“He stood firm in what he wanted to do, and I stood firm behind him,” Keyko Clark said. “These are the consequences that we have to deal with.”

It is so hard for his family and friends to believe that Clark was just in metro Detroit on leave two weeks ago, but they are so grateful to have had that time with him.

Clark leaves behind his wife, stepson, mother, father, sister and three brothers. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all.

Marines Say “This Is Our Vietnam”

**“Sometimes It’s Hard To See
What We’re Supposed To
Accomplish Out Here”**

**“On Paper Things Look Like
They’re Going To Plan”**

**“But Paper Is Never Much Use When
You Are Up To Your Knees In
Sucking Mud, And Enemy Snipers
Are Shooting Your Comrades Almost
At Will”**

“The War Still Rages And It Has Caused Terrible Damage To The US Marines, Who Have Been Fighting An Unseen And Determined Foe”



“This place makes you old fast,” one marine told me.



Warning on a ladder leading to a sentry point

But instead of the insurgents ghosting away before the marines can take aim or helicopter gunships arrive, they increase their rate of fire.

Sustained, accurate gunfire rips through the patrol and the Americans are forced to retreat to safety, running through a wall of gunshots from the west that are joined by fire from the east. A well-executed complex ambush.

[Thanks to Don Bacon, Lt Col, US Army (Ret), Vietnam & Smedley Butler Society:
<http://www.warisaracket.org/>, who sent this in.

[He writes: “The Fizzling Surge”]

An 18-month military surge increased NATO forces in Afghanistan’s Helmand province by 11,000 troops to 30,000. But s this summer is the beginning of President Barack Obama’s promised withdrawal of all combat troops from Afghanistan in 2014. By then the country is expected to transition from NATO to Afghan control.

The insurgency also has a plan: resist and delay.

And unlike NATO, the Taliban intend to be here long after 2014.

1 October 2011 By John Cantlie, BBC [Excerpts] All photographs taken by John Cantlie, who spent most of July with the US Marines in Upper Gereshk

Gereshk Valley, Helmand

After 10 years in Afghanistan, foreign troops can claim successes in the notorious province of Helmand - but a vicious guerrilla war still rages in the Upper Gereshk valley, which US marines are in the process of handing back to British forces.

It has only just turned 07:00 and it’s already pushing 35C (95F). The three litres of warm water you drank at dawn have already soaked into your flak vest.

The patrol advances slowly, inching through poppy fields like their lives depended on it. Suddenly a massive explosion rips through the air less than 50m behind.

The Taliban have booby-trapped the right-hand gate of the compound with a grenade and an IED (improvised explosive device) during the night.

By chance we exited by the left gate.

“Well good morning to you, too,” grunts a marine.

Twenty-one-year-old Dustin Weier picks himself up and leads with a metal detector sweeping this way and that, followed by a dog handler with a black Labrador called Moxi.

Both are there to detect the countless other IEDs buried just inches under the dry, lumpy soil, and they’re not always successful.

The patrol follows directly in their footsteps, a safe path indicated by baby powder or bottle-tops placed on the dirt.

“Straight line 10 yards until you get to the bottle-top, then turn and come directly to me,” the message is whispered from one man to the next down the line.

To deviate a few inches could result in a pressure-plate being compressed and the baritone boom of 20kg of silvery-grey homemade explosive exploding underfoot.

It’s happened twice in the last four days, three times if you count that near miss. Around here that makes it a good week.

The sun is beginning to burn as the patrol pushes 150m across an open field when the Taliban open up from tree lines to the west.



A marine rushes to help a fallen comrade

One marine drops instantly, shot in the lower back.

“I’m hit,” he shouts as he falls to the ground.

The rest of the squad returns fire. Time compresses as a thousand bullets make an impossible noise.

But instead of the insurgents ghosting away before the marines can take aim or helicopter gunships arrive, they increase their rate of fire.

Sustained, accurate gunfire rips through the patrol and the Americans are forced to retreat to safety, running through a wall of gunshots from the west that are joined by fire from the east.

A well-executed complex ambush.

It’s the brazenness of the Taliban that is unexpected - within 20 minutes they are throwing grenades from hidden positions just a few metres from the patrol and firing others from low-slung launchers.

“The Grenades Dance Towards The Landing Zone As A Medevac Helicopter Lands To Pick Up The Casualty”

The grenades dance towards the landing zone as a medevac helicopter lands to pick up the casualty.

The contact lasts the best part of an hour and it is not until the helicopters overhead finally open up with their missiles that the insurgent guns lie quiet.

In the silence, all you can hear is the metallic click-clack of weapons being reloaded and the song of the swallows that flit through the air.

And it's like that every single day.

The war in Helmand isn't supposed to be like this, not now.

With good security gains being made in the district centres of Marjeh, Garmser, Now Zad, Nad Ali and Musa Qalah, on paper things look like they're going to plan.

On paper, 2011 is indeed a good year to start the troop drawdown and hand over partial control to the Afghan Army.

But paper is never much use when you are up to your knees in sucking mud, and enemy snipers are shooting your comrades almost at will.

In the ploughed fields and thick tree lines of Upper Gereshk valley and up north to Sangin, a place where British forces lost a third of their total casualties in Helmand, the war still rages and it has caused terrible damage to the US Marines, who have been fighting an unseen and determined foe.

“This Is Our Vietnam,' Say The Marines”

“This is our Vietnam,” say the marines of 3rd Battalion, 4th Regiment, who by mid-September had taken 90 casualties since they deployed in April, including five killed in action.

“Every time we leave the wire we get shot at or find an IED, either with our engineers or by treading on it. The Taliban have freedom of movement and we can't engage until they've engaged us first. Sometimes it's hard to see what we're supposed to accomplish out here.”

Intelligence suggest this area was home to the Afghan Army 93rd Brigade in the 1990s and that elements of this old unit form the core of the fighters here - veterans of combat, well-armed and tactically minded.

“In A Bad Week, Injuries Are Sustained Almost Every Day”

In a bad week, injuries are sustained almost every day.

The 2nd Platoon is just 50m outside its patrol base when it is attacked by accurate machine-gun fire.

One marine is killed after four rounds hit him in a tight grouping just below the collarbone and another strikes him in the back. As his comrades scramble on top of a building to return fire, an IED placed on the roof blows up, amputating the limbs of a machine-gunner.

The marine behind him has his clothes ripped off completely by the force of the blast and suffers concussion. That platoon takes a total of six casualties in one day - the medevac helicopters clattering constantly overhead.

One day later, a marine is hit by a sniper round in the side, it bounces off his fifth vertebra and exits under his right arm.

Forty-eight hours after that, the 3rd Platoon is manning a position in an orchard when a round whistles in and catches one of them directly above his bulletproof vest - one inch above his heart.

A week later, a grenade lands in the middle of a secure compound, wounding three marines on their way to dinner.

The ferocity of the Taliban attacks is such that one of the battalion's two rifle companies, Lima Company, redeployed its troops to observation posts within a few hundred metres of the company's main base.

The patrol bases a kilometre away had been abandoned, rations and supplies burned to deny them to the enemy, insurgents visible on the roofs of the compounds within minutes of the last marine leaving.

This isn't the progressive Helmand you sometimes hear about in the news.

There were also less than a handful of Afghan local police to watch the newly-built Route 611 between Gereshk and Sangin, and the men of Lima Company found themselves running out of options on a battlefield where the Taliban appeared to have the upper hand.

“You Hear The Taliban On The Radio.” “The Americans Are Leaving, Be Ready To Move Into Positions In 15 Minutes”

“I deployed here with the Royal Marines 40 Commando in 2007 and not a lot has changed,” says Captain Andrew Terrell.

“The situation is no better.”

You hear the Taliban on the radio. Every unit carries with them Afghan interpreters listening in on their communications on a transceiver. It's a strange thing, to be listening to the Taliban while they chatter all day.

Normally they spend most of their time talking about nothing, lots of hellos and goodbyes, waiting for the marines to make a move. But as soon as a patrol leaves base, their tone changes.

“The Americans are leaving, be ready to move into positions in 15 minutes,” the insurgents will say.

They know the marines are listening and sometimes it will be a foil. But often it isn't, and after a sustained contact you can hear the Taliban discuss their casualties over the radio.

“How many injured do you have?”

“I will call you back. It is several.”

“Will we need a car to take them to Gereshk?”

“Yes.”

“Little More Than Convivial Sit-Downs With The Fathers Of The Local Taliban”

All coalition forces in Afghanistan rely heavily on meetings with the local Afghans to gauge their concerns, ask what their requirements are, to spread the word on how coalition efforts will bring increased security to the region.

These shuras are attended by the village elders, religious mullahs and local governors.

I've sat in on dozens of such meetings and they're always the same, the commanding officer asking how they can improve security and offering to build bridges, wells and other local projects to show how the coalition are a force for good in the area.

But in Gereshk, there are no shuras to speak of. It's hard to have a meeting with the elders when everyone has left for the summer and the only people inhabiting the area now are fighting-age males.

The weekly Saturday meetings with the handful of prematurely old men with deep facial lines and hawkish features who attend are little more than convivial sit-downs with the fathers of the local Taliban.

They know it, the marines know it, and the Afghans laugh among themselves, talking in circles as they often do when sitting down with foreign soldiers.

“Why is my son in jail?” asks Mohammed Sarif. Tall and with a large, round face adorned with a white beard, his eyes glisten with emotion.

“Because your son is a bad man,” states the CO. “We caught him with explosives on his hand, and we have seen him laying bombs in the ground.”

“My son has not done these things.”

“Yes, he has, and we have seen him do it.”

“Then I will kill him myself.”

“He will be brought to justice.”

“Give us tanks and guns and we will fight for justice in our area.”

“That’s good, we are recruiting for local police. Get 15 men and we will give them all the training they require.”

“We cannot join the police.”

“Why not?”

“The Taliban would kill us.”

Impasse.

“Money is not an issue,” says Captain Terrell afterwards. “We’ve got plenty of money we can bring to the area but since nobody cares about projects here there’s little point in spending money because it won’t improve the situation.”



By 13:00 it's so hot nobody can move

By 13:00 it's so hot nobody can move. Only the freshwater crabs that live in the irrigation canals venture out of their muddy holes to feed. The skies above resonate with the distant buzz of Reaper drones and the slash and burp of jet fighters on a gun run.

I ask the Battalion Commander how much pressure there is to get a "result" in this corner of Helmand.

"There is a danger that we do something here that isn't sustainable," says Lt Col Piddock.

"If Task Force Helmand take over our battlespace, they won't have the numbers we do. A counter-insurgency fight is a long road and we'll leave this place better than when we arrived, but at some point you have to start talking about leaving."

"I Don't Want To Lose My Legs Tonight"

Lima Company got on with the job, buoyed by a ruthlessly dark sense of humour. One evening they mime to a version of The Outfield's I Don't Want to Lose Your Love Tonight on their rifles, but replacing the chorus with their own, "I don't want to lose my legs tonight."

"If I lose both legs and both arms to an IED," announces a sergeant, shortly after the platoon evacuates a triple-amputee, "if one of you bastards doesn't finish me off, then I'm going to get on my electric wheelchair back home and, using a Stars and Stripes pennant with my chin to control the joystick, drive myself out onto a freeway and finish the job."

It's so real they have to make fun of it.

The next morning 3rd Platoon make its way through thick brush to occupy a new observation post, the branches slapping at their faces, boots slipping in the mud.

The Taliban has flooded the fields to make movement more difficult, and the canals that channel water to the crops are deep and sheer sided. The engineers enter the compound first, sweeping for IEDs and booby-traps

It's a big, solid building, high walls with room for everyone. There's a vineyard loaded with sour, unripe grapes and two fresh-water wells - an ideal platoon base.

Marines scale the walls and locate look-out points. An Afghan interpreter is helping move sandbags when a high-velocity shot cracks through the air.

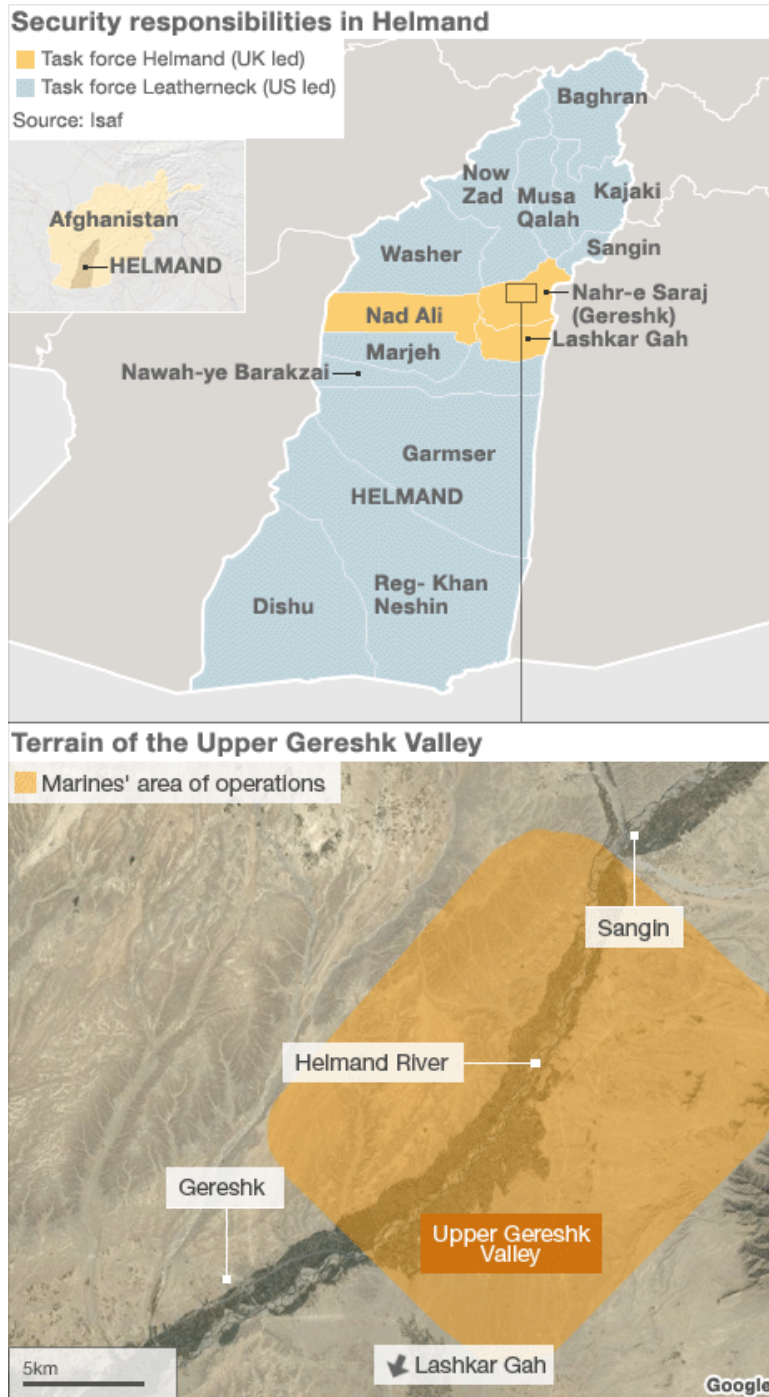
Not 20 minutes into a new base and already the place is zeroed by a sniper. The bullet has entered the Afghan's left shoulder and exited straight out through his back with little tissue damage, the vivid purple entry wound clearly visible below his collarbone.

The squad return fire towards the location of the shooter, firing rockets into the position and a patrol quickly pushes out to look for a body or evidence they scored a hit.

Nothing is found, no trace of the sniper, and radio chatter is heard that the Taliban have eyes on the patrol and are preparing to attack again.

The war in Helmand isn't supposed to be like this, not now.

But it is.



Resistance Action

10/01/11 DBA & 02 October 2011 TOLONews.com

Kunduz, Afghanistan - Three Afghan police officers were killed and their commander wounded Saturday in a Taliban ambush in northern Afghanistan, an official said.

'Commander Juma Khan, border police commander of Dasht-e-Archi district (Kunduz province), was ambushed by the armed Taliban Saturday at 09:00 am (0430 GMT) while patrolling in the district,' said Shaikh Sadruddin, district governor of Dasht-e-Archi. 'An armed clash lasted for over 3 hours up to 12:00 pm which resulted in three police officers martyred and the commander himself wounded,' the governor said.

Nine Afghan National Army soldiers were killed when a roadside bomb exploded near a convoy on patrol in Paktia province, local officials said. The soldiers were searching for a bomb hidden by insurgents under a bridge in Zurmat district when the explosion occurred, he added.

Four other ANA soldiers were wounded in the incident, Rohullah Samoon, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said.

FUTILE EXERCISE: ALL HOME NOW



A 105mm high explosive round is fired to support an Afghan outpost under attack by insurgents Sept. 14, 2011 at Combat Outpost Monti in Kunar province, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/David Goldman)...

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

SOMALIA WAR REPORTS

Pro-Government Soldiers Kill Each Other In Dispute Over Who Can Extort Money From Civilians

10.1.11 (Mareeg)

Mogadishu-

Heavy fighting between pro-government soldiers occurred in Dharkenlay district in the capital Mogadishu killing 5 people and wounding 10 others, reports said.

Pro-government militias have on Saturday afternoon fought in Dharkenlay district exchanging heavy weapons killing at least 5 people including civilians and injuring 10 others, reports said.

Both militias's battle based on the control of illegal checkpoint that militias collect money from buses use the high the ways passes through the district, reports said.

Deputy district commissioner of Dharkenlay, Yusuf Kabale was among the conflict as militias loyal to him were a apart the war and the fire was continuing until the sunset.

STUCK ON STUPID

**The New York Police Department
Operated "As A Public Relations
Arm For Occupy Wall Street"**

In The Matter Of Demonstrations, The Police Department Has “A Long And Dramatic History Of Assuring The Outcome It Seemingly Would Most Like To Avoid”

“Like A Toddler Who Throws His Food On The Floor, Gets In Trouble And Then Just Does It Again, The Police Department Overreacts To Peaceful Protests, Invites Ire And Then Reprises Its Actions The Next Time It Encounters Agitation”



CAMERA-READY A police officer grappled with a protester on Sept. 19. Robert Stolarik for The New York Times

September 30, 2011 By GINIA BELLAFANTE, New York Times [Excerpts]

During their first week, members of Occupy Wall Street, the ideologically vague and strategically baffling effort to redress social inequities, put together a library on the north end of Zuccotti Park whose disparate offerings included “Last Exit to Brooklyn”; Gay

Talese's article in The New Yorker on the collaboration of Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga; and Abbott's Digest of New York Statutes and Reports, Volumes 4, 9, 33 and 34.

By the middle of last week, as the numbers entrenched in the park grew, copies of "Animal Farm," Barbara Ehrenreich's "Nickel and Dimed" and "Meltdown," a book outlining the 2008 financial crisis, were well placed.

Specific ambitions still had not emerged, but a new intensity had begun to replace the limp theatrics.

The New York Police Department could not have intended to operate as a public relations arm for Occupy Wall Street, but its invidious treatment of the demonstrators last weekend went a tremendous way toward galvanizing sympathy for the group's good but porous intentions.

Video widely seen on the Internet of a high-ranking officer, later identified as Deputy Inspector Anthony Bologna, attacking what appeared to be docile protesters with pepper spray prompted public outrage and investigations by the Internal Affairs Bureau of the Police Department and Manhattan prosecutors.

Early Monday evening, helicopters flew over Wall Street, in anticipation of what — excessively boisterous readings of Orwell? — was hardly clear.

The group's march on the financial district's Luxury Night Out was still a day away. The Broad Street outpost of Hermès was in no imminent jeopardy.

Like a toddler who throws his food on the floor, gets in trouble and then just does it again, the Police Department overreacts to peaceful protests, invites ire and then reprises its actions the next time it encounters agitation.

Inspector Bologna is a defendant in lawsuits claiming wrongful arrests at protests during the Republican National Convention in 2004.

Among the approximately 600 arrests made since the protest began, on Sept. 17, were about 500 on Saturday night as 1,500 or so protesters walked across the Brooklyn Bridge.

On Wednesday, three had been arrested for that decidedly questionable menace: loitering while wearing a mask.

While the police would do well to avoid criminalizing costumes, the department would do even better to remember that when people are carted away by law enforcement merely for carrying cameras — as one seemed to be in another well-circulated image — more cameras are sure to come.

In the matter of demonstrations, the Police Department has, in fact, had a long and dramatic history of assuring the outcome it seemingly would most like to avoid.

During the student uprisings at Columbia in 1968, aimed at the university's affiliation with a research group linked to the Defense Department and at the construction of a university gym in Morningside Park, police brutality resulted in a powerful escalation of the movement.

“In the beginning, it did not have broad support on campus,” Alex S. Vitale, a Brooklyn College sociologist specializing in police response to protest, told me.

“But when the cops started beating people up, things really changed.”

On April 30 that year, a police raid injured more than 100 students, students called a strike, and the campus shut down for the remainder of the semester.

Footage of the events documents radicalization in progress. “I was a nonviolent student,” one young man witnessing the aggression says. “I couldn't care what happened. I was completely neutral. I am not neutral anymore. I'm going to occupy a building tomorrow.”

The events in Tompkins Square Park in 1988 left the department with another black mark in its history of responding to civic unrest — 114 years after thousands of laborers, many unemployed as the result of an economic depression that began in 1873, were greeted by patrolmen flailing clubs on the same ground.

Twenty-three years ago, demonstrators were responding to the imposition of a park curfew. Officers battled with protesters for hours in the middle of a summer night — and then, too, a videographer, Clayton Patterson, caught the mayhem, filming police officers, some of whom had removed their name tags, beating protesters and onlookers.

In 1992, off-duty police officers rallied at City Hall against civilian review, but they were so unruly that they contributed to its eventual passing. “The image of drunken police officers behaving badly did not sit well with the public,” Donna Lieberman, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, told me.

In his academic work, Professor Vitale has argued that civilian review is in itself insufficient because it deals only with individual complaints, when the problem is systemic. Over the past decade, the Police Department has responded to protesters with a style that emphasizes micromanagement and obsessive pre-emption.

During the Iraq war protest on the East Side in February 2003, when more than 350 people were arrested, the movements of demonstrators were so narrowly circumscribed, and access to the event so curtailed, that matters became more chaotic than they might otherwise have been.

Police officers on horseback rammed into trapped crowds.

The encampment in Zuccotti Park is likely to remain indefinitely.

At this point, any attempt on the part of the police to close things down could only result in the resurrection of Emma Goldman.

Brookfield Properties, the developer that owns the land and offers it for public use, is presumably sending few notes of gratitude to the police. In a statement, a spokesman said the company was “extremely concerned with the conditions that have been created by those currently occupying the park,” and was “actively working with the City of New York to address these conditions and restore the park to its intended purpose.”

Good luck with that.

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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CLASS WAR REPORTS



A Tale Of Two Rallies -- Notes From Friday's Protests Against Police Brutality:

“Every Time They Back Down And Let Marches Happen It Bolsters The Confidence Of OWS; Every Time They Clamp Down, It Infuriates People Who Are Barely

Paying Attention And Support For OWS Grows”

“The Chant Dominating The End Of
The Feeder March Was New And A
Bit Shocking. Students, And Labor,
Can Shut This City Down!”

“Let’s Hope So”



Yfrog.com/

October 2, 2011 By Pham Binh, IndyBlog

Spearheaded by the Granny Peace Brigade, 2,000 protestors marched from Liberty Plaza Friday evening to join an anti-police brutality demonstration called in response to New York Police Department (NYPD) Deputy Inspector Anthony Bologna’s world famous pepper spray rampage against peaceful Occupy Wall Street (OWS) protestors the Saturday prior.

The character of the two protests could not be more different.

Liberty Plaza was stuffed with people like a rush hour subway car.

I did a couple counts from different vantage points and came up with about 2,000 people both times, well above the normal the 200-300 who march near the stock exchange for the opening and closing bells every day or the 100-200 occupants who have made it their business to stay in the park until something in this country changes.

People were packed tightly on all four edges of the park, and quite a few protestors were on the sidewalks adjacent to the park, unsure of whether the NYPD would keep us bottled up there or begin arresting us.

Before the Granny Peace Brigade stepped up Broadway toward 1 Police Plaza, the crowd at OWS commemorated past victims of police brutality – Sean Bell, Amadou Diallo, Abner Louima, and many, many others.

Soon after, they heard from New York City's most powerful union, Transit Workers Union (TWU) Local 100, who represent the workers who operate the city's massive public transit system.

TWU speakers made militant speeches in solidarity with OWS, denounced police brutality, and loudly asserted that people have the right to protest without fear of being attacked.

Most of their speakers were black and seemed pleasantly surprised when the mostly white crowd repeated their every word using the "human microphone" tactic that was invented to get around the NYPD's ban on megaphones.

Local 100's support came after OWS disrupted a Sotheby's art auction in solidarity with their locked out union workers and marched to a postal workers' rally against the fake crisis aimed at smashing the postal unions.

It seems solidarity is contagious, and it's spreading all over the country.

As the march made its way up Broadway, the NYPD lined the street, separating protestors on the sidewalk from passing traffic. They were almost downright polite when they asked marchers to stay on the sidewalk in stark contrast to the heavy-handed tactics they used less than a week ago.

It's obvious that there is no consistent tactical police policy coming from NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly and billionaire Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

They are playing it by ear day by day, just as the activists are.

Like in Egypt, every time they back down and let marches happen it bolsters the confidence of OWS; every time they clamp down, it infuriates people who are barely paying attention and support for OWS grows.

A few elderly women (not the peace grannies) tried to tell people in the crowd to hush up, that this was a "silent march," but the much younger crowd would have none of it. The most popular chant I heard in my section was "banks got bailed out, we got sold out!"

As the march passed Vesey Street, I realized they intended to march up Broadway and take a right on Chambers Street in order to pass City Hall before reaching 1 Police Plaza.

The solid police line next to the march became ever thinner and eventually ceased to exist as they struggled to contain the front of the procession, allowing myself, photographers, and fellow protestors freedom to maneuver.

I opted to head directly to the plaza to see what the rally looked like before the two groups merged.

As I approached the Manhattan Municipal Building that stands between City Hall and 1 Police Plaza, I was struck by the NYPD's absence.

Not a cop in sight.

The last time I was at a march here was after the murder of Sean Bell in 2006. Back then, the place was locked down with cops standing in tight formation blocking our procession to their headquarters.

I made my way under the building's arch and came upon a crowd of 50-100 or so of long-time leftists, most of them middle-aged or older, many of them with their children.

A couple dozen of them walked in a slow circle chanting in unison somewhat dejectedly against police brutality. I saw veteran socialists Louis Proyect, Sam Farber, Sandy Boyer, and long-time activists in the Professional Staff Congress (PSC), the union of faculty and staff of the city's public higher education system.

It was PSC members who called the rally.

PSC member Penny Lewis gave a great speech while tending to her young daughter. She pointed out the fact that Mayor Bloomberg and right-wing extremist David Koch were the two richest men in the city and that Bloomberg, like his predecessor Rudy Giuliani, consistently used the NYPD to harass, intimidate, hamper, and pen-up any and all protests.

The spirit of militant defiance of OWS in the face of the NYPD's typical tactics was a breath of fresh air for this crowd. I also detected a mood of apprehension since they had no idea how big the OWS feeder march would be.

The merger of the two groups was triumphant. The NYPD may have tried to keep the two groups separate by blocking the grannies at the entrance of the Manhattan Municipal Building's arch, but apparently the NYPD relented.

Perhaps Bologna ran out of pepper spray.

A huge mass of people chanting, "we, are, the 99%!" made their way into the plaza area and occupied it.

The chant dominating the end of the feeder march was new and a bit shocking: "students, and labor, can shut this city down!"

Let's hope so.

On Saturday, the police allowed hundreds from OWS to march onto the Brooklyn Bridge only to trap them once they reached the middle of the bridge.

They arrested many people, possibly hundreds, including a New York Times reporter. Marchers locked arms, forming a human chain in an attempt to make it harder for the cops to divide protestors so they could snatch and grab people as they did last Saturday.

It's amazing how fast people are learning to adapt their tactics.

Of course the cops will claim the activists were "blocking traffic," but why let them march onto the bridge to begin with if that was really the concern?

Most likely, this is a test to see how OWS reacts and how the public reacts.

OWS struck back by releasing its first official statement outlining the grievances of the 99%.

Releasing this concise document with grievances that literally hundreds of millions of Americans share at the height of media attention that the latest round of arrests will attract is nothing short of a brilliant public relations move.

Meanwhile, the OWS movement is coming to a town near you. If not, start an event on your own in your area. The pickets of Woolworth's department store in solidarity with black and white students who defied segregation at Woolworth's lunch counters throughout the Jim Crow South in the 50s did not just happen. They were organized.

People stopped complaining and started doing something, first in handfuls, then in dozens, then hundreds, and then thousands.

As one OWS speaker put it at Liberty Park, "we've been waiting our whole lives for this."

Now is the time. Now is our time.

MORE:

Comment On Occupy Wall Street: T

A Youtube of someone claiming to be a Marine Tea Party person was put up Saturday, saying 15 Marines would show up at 10 PM Saturday night in uniform to support Occupy Wall Street.

What was indicative of how things are was not that the announcement was a fraud, but the flood of comment on the YouTube in response to it welcoming members of the armed forces, with many OWS people explaining why they thought that was key to future success.

That, plus the friendly attitude shown by OWS participants towards union members, shows for sure that this is not the wretched stupidity of most of the 1960's "New Left," famously hostile to the working class as hopeless lackeys of affluent America [except for themselves, the student/white-collar self-described "new working class"], and for the most part, with very important exceptions, showing no interest in alliance with troops.

Today, those old stupidities can barely be found articulated among Occupy Wall Street participants.

They get it.

This is a new movement; still diffuse and blurred, like any embryo.

The sharpening of focus on specific demands, and fewer of them, will develop, along with understanding that pretending there are no leaders means what one really has are secret unaccountable leaders operating in the shadows.

Union members and troops both understand the necessity of specific objectives, with tactics and strategy to achieve them, and leadership to enforce organized closed-fist unity in action.

When the question is raised, both instinctively also understand why effective action requires leadership elected freely by and accountable to those they are chosen to represent.

Reality dictates that organizing to change society fundamentally requires focus, clear objectives and a command structure elected from below.

Because there is no possibility that this movement, at this time, will lead to a revolution that smashes the Obama Regime; Congress and the whole rotten government by and for the rich, organization for the future is priority now.

That means winning over the troops to our side.

When the shit hits the fan, they are the last card the government has to play against us.

For now, the larger and more successful this movement is, the better the prospects that what is politically and organizational necessary to build for the future will be understood by many involved in it.

That's a good thing.

Rock on.

T

MORE:

Occupy Wall Street Movement Receiving Mail And Supplies From Supporters Across The U.S.



Casey O'Neill, 30, of Oakland, Calif. unpacks boxes sent to the Occupy Wall Street movement in Zuccotti Park Friday. Kevin Hagen for News

October 2nd 2011 BY Christina Boyle, DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Twice a day, the Occupy Wall Street movement gets mail - so much the protesters had to designate an official "mailman." Well-wishers and kindred spirits from across the country have been sending cardboard boxes bearing food, medical supplies, clothes and blankets to the masses who have camped out near Ground Zero since Sept. 14.

"I want to thank you for the many sacrifices you are making to better this nation," read a note that Janet Bauer of Elk Grove Village, Ill., wrote to accompany her care package. She also threw in \$30 in cash.

"I'm a 51-year-old permanently disabled person who is unable to join you - but know my heart and hopes are with you."

What started as a loosely organized sit-in to protest the practices of Wall Street has grown into something much larger and harder to define - an ever-changing, ultra-democratic clamor for social change.

The protesters have built a mini-tent city in Zuccotti Park, at the corner of Broadway and Liberty St., but the mail they get shows the movement's spirit knows no physical boundary.

Some of the mailings may have been inspired by the events of last Saturday, when the movement got an international media splash after NYPD cops arrested more than 80

people, and a high-ranking member of New York's Finest pepper-sprayed a bunch of women.

The encampment now feeds and shelters hundreds of people each day and has a kitchen, a library, zones for first aid and sleeping - not to mention a committee to put out the trash.

They have survived entirely on donations for more than two weeks, its leaders say. When a request for a specific item is posted online, the group's supporters nationwide are quick to respond.

"It's amazing. It just feels so wonderful to know that people are supporting us," said Casey O'Neill, 34, the protester who was tapped to be mailman. "What people send is useful, but knowing they support us enough to send this stuff is even better."

O'Neill makes two trips daily from the park to the nearby Fulton St. Post Office, where Occupy Wall Street opened a Post Office box.

The first of those trips Friday brought him back to the base laden with 19 boxes - a delivery from UPS. O'Neill expected the afternoon's haul to be even bigger, with shipments coming in from FedEx and the U.S. Postal Service.

Inside the morning's mail was anything an urban, politically inspired camper could want - socks, peanuts, dried fruit, several portable and solar battery-chargers, even a cordless electric kettle. Other packages held whistles, baby powder and a few coffee urns.

"Sent with love, encouragement, positive vibes and hope," read one note from St. Louis.

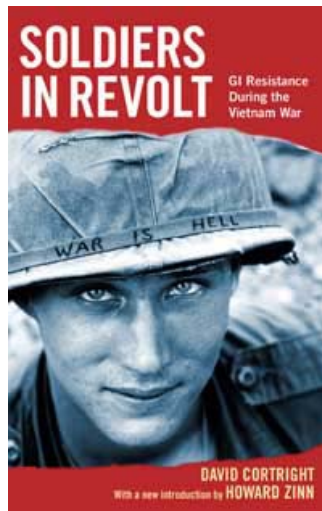
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We can accept packages of any size. We're currently low on food**

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