

Military Resistance 9L17

Deadline For Entry Coming Up Fast!

**[The Military Resistance Holiday Fund
Raising Raffle Is Getting Short]**



Tactical Painting
From Soldier X, Iraq, to this Newsletter 4.05

[Photos Of Prizes Below]

But First:

**IF YOU APPROVE OF THIS LETTER THAT CAME
IN WEDNESDAY, YOUR HELP NOW WILL KEEP
THE WORK ALIVE AND WELL:**

“I Encourage Peace-Seekers To Support Military Resistance”

From: Don Bacon
To: Thomas Barton
Subject: Donation
Date: Dec 14, 2011

I gladly sent you a donation again.

You are the charity that keeps on giving.

It seems like eight or ten years now, back when you had the website, back when we expected we could stop the wars, back when we had no idea that it would be this difficult, back when I first wondered how you could possibly carry on with this effort in your spare time after your day job, and here you are still publishing the foremost voice for peace in the country.

There is none better.

I volunteered for Vietnam when I was a young man. Back in the sixties there were hawks and there were doves, and I was hawk, young and clueless.

I learned quickly, and came back a dove.

The popular saying then, before most of your readers were born probably, was "love it or leave it." Well there were some of us who loved it (America) and chose not to leave it.

I was a dove in uniform, but I had my "tickets punched" and it worked. The hawks need us to keep them informed on the truth, which is what you do too.

When I was at Leavenworth, in the army college that is, I read a book in the college library -- believe it or not -- that stuck with me.

It was "War is a Racket" (WIAR) by retired USMC General Smedley Butler. Years later, when Operation Iraqi Fiasco started, I remembered WIAR, learned me some html, and started the Smedley Butler Society with his own website.

General Butler said: "War is a racket. . .the only one in which the profits are reckoned in dollars and the losses in lives." ---- MajGen Smedley D. Butler, USMC, double recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, 1939

General Butler has friends all over the world and is more popular than ever.

Last month saw an average of 159 views per day to the old html site.

Here's the top ten visit sources for November, after US commercial: Germany, Russian Federation, Canada, Ukraine, US Educational, United Kingdom, Australia, US Military, Czech Republic, and Sweden.

They identify with General Butler's message: "I spent 33 years and 4 months in active service as a member of our country's most agile military force--the Marine Corps. I served in all commissioned ranks from second lieutenant to Major General. And during that period I spent most of my time being a high-class muscle man for Big Business, for Wall Street and for the bankers. In short, I was a racketeer for capitalism. I suspected I was part of a racket all the time. Now I am sure of it. Like all members of the military profession I never had an original thought until I left the service."

How does that apply now? I do some blogging, and recently a blogger commented: "More and more people question why we are there [Afghanistan] for any other reason than to eliminate Bin Laden and al Quada? To restore a stable gov't? Its not like Afghanistan is any major geopolitical domino."

Of course he's correct. Afghanistan is a small, poor country of the other side of the earth. Why are we there?

This was my response:

The "safe havens" excuse is getting tired so the "Silk Road Strategy" is now taking center stage. The U.S. needs Afghanistan to anchor the other -stans in Central Asia. Of course the "Silk Road" (highway and or rail) would have to go through Pakistan to get to either India or the sea (Iran not qualifying for the latter) but they don't sweat the details.

There's money to be made -- with a lot of energy in Central Asia -- plus the thrill of competing with Russia in its old neighborhood and with China, the new kid on the block.

The business of America is business. from 2009 --

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce (Eurasia Business Platform) will hold a marquee conference, "Silk Road Trade and Investment: New Pathways for U.S.-Central Asia Economic Ties." This event will bring together Ministers, corporate decision makers and experts from the public and private sectors to discuss the opportunities and challenges of the rapidly emerging market nestled strategically between Europe, China, Russia, South Asia, Turkey and the Middle East.-- October 7-8, 2009

There's U.S. taxpayer money being used, too, through USAID -- your friendly State Department at work. (end comment)

General Butler's words still ring true today: "War is a racket. . .the only one in which the profits are reckoned in dollars and the losses in lives."

I encourage peace-seekers to support Military Resistance.

Don Bacon

[LTC US Army (Ret), Vietnam & Smedley Butler Society:

<http://www.warisaracket.org/>]

Why Military Resistance Newsletter Needs Your Support Now

Doing everything possible to encourage military resistance to Imperial war has never been more important!

We don't hit on you more than twice a year [last Raffle March 2011], but Imperial war isn't happening only twice a year: the killing goes on.

This is where the money goes:

1. Computer Maintenance:

Yearly fees for security services that keep out assorted hackers, virus senders, so that not only is it possible to produce military resistance, but, most important, emails received from active duty troops remain confidential.

Yearly fee for website that posts the newsletter, and serves as an incoming email address for members of the armed services.

\$165 monthly charge for having a high-quality unlimited-capacity email connection to the internet to send and receive Military Resistance newsletter and the hundreds of emails that come in every day.

Costs for a truly brilliant computer technician on call 24/7 who solves the crippling problems that come up in maintaining the platform that makes Military Resistance Newsletter possible. He gives Military Resistance a significant break on fees because of the kind of work we do, but costs mount up.

2. Cost of a high security mail drop that allows anybody in the armed services to address mail to Military Resistance anyway they want, using any name they want, ranging from Military Resistance to Presbyterian Pen Pal Club, provided the Box # is correct: \$650 for a year.

3. Routinely: postage, office supplies, printer ink and on and on.

Your Assistance Is Respectfully Requested To Keep This Newsletter Alive And Well:

We're not too big to fail, which simply means running out of the money it takes to keep going.

Your assistance is respectfully and urgently requested.

Respect to everyone who has helped keep GI Special/Military Resistance going since 2003 and helps now via this raffle.

T

Military Resistance Newsletter

**EVERY CENT WILL BE USED FOR WORK GIVING AID AND
COMFORT TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES RESISTING
IMPERIAL WAR.**

**POLITICIANS CAN'T BE COUNTED ON TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED
THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE WARS**

Here's How The Raffle Works **[Prizes Listed Below]**

Anybody who sends at least \$5 is in the raffle.

The deadline for your entry is extended to January 1, 2012

There are 13 prizes, so 13 names will be pulled out of a hat.

The first name pulled gets to pick his or her choice, and then the second name will get to choose from the remaining prizes, and so on. We'll contact winners by email or phone if you send phone #.

There will be no charge for shipping the items to you unless you are overseas and do not have APO.

**NOTE; ANY ENVELOPES POSTMARKED 1.2.12 OR EARLIER WILL BE
CONSIDERED GOOD FOR THE RAFFLE, BECAUSE SOME COME FROM
APO/OVERSEAS.**

**YOU CAN SEND YOUR SUPPORT BY MAIL OR
CREDIT CARD:**

BY MAIL:

**IF YOU SEND A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER,
MAKE PAYABLE TO: THOMAS F BARTON**

Mail to:
Military Resistance Newsletter
C/O

Box 126
2576 Broadway
New York, N.Y.
10025-5657

OR

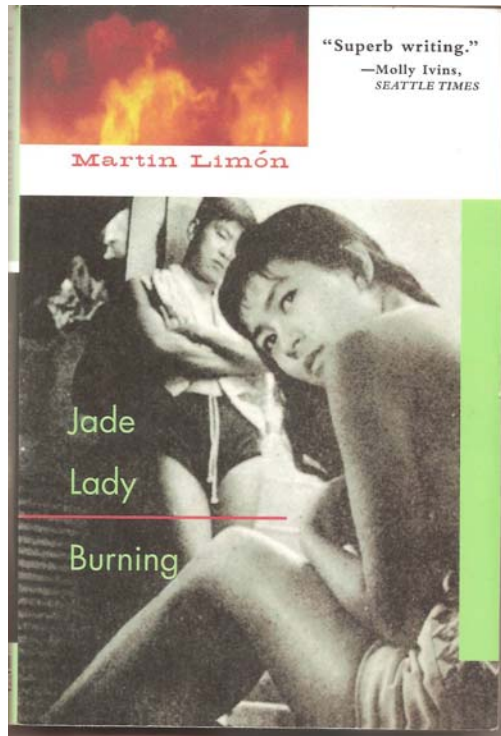
**BY CREDIT CARD OR PAYPAL THROUGH OUR
PAYPAL ACCOUNT:**

**CLICK ON THIS PAYPAL LINK OR COPY IT INTO YOUR
BROWSER ADDRESS FIELD:**

**[https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-
xclick&hosted_button_id=5069540](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=5069540)**

**Now The Prizes:
[Winners' Choice]**

**Prize #1: Against The Empire:
Jade Lady Burning**

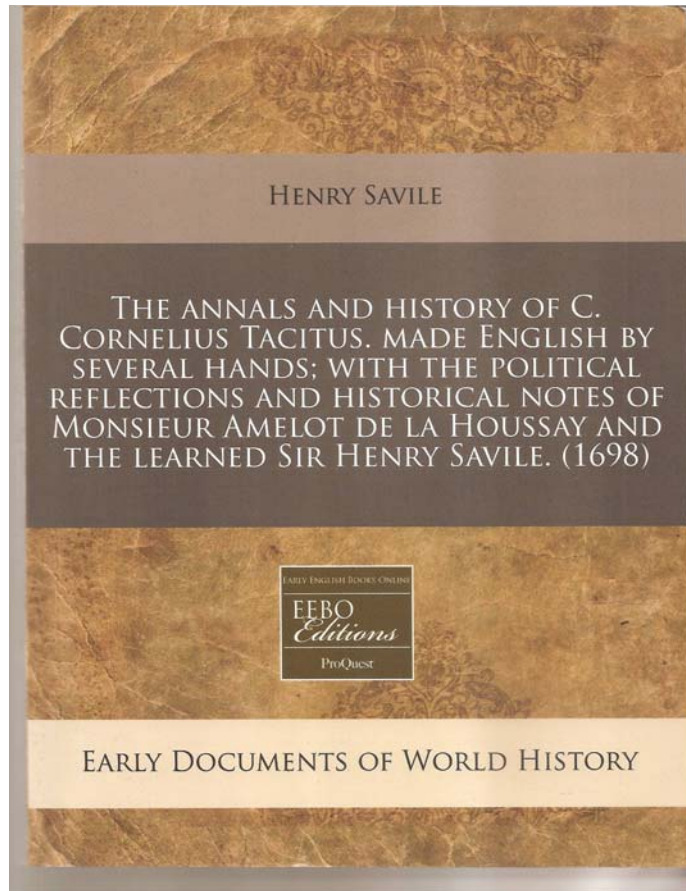


Beautiful condition: 223 pages: softcover

The first in a book series by a writer who did a 10 year hitch with the U.S. army in Korea, hates the brass, hates the Empire that sent him there to occupy Korea, and makes all that clear in a book about an MP fighting for social justice against a corrupt U.S. commands' efforts to stop him. Molly Ivins is right. Unknown to the left.

Prize #2:

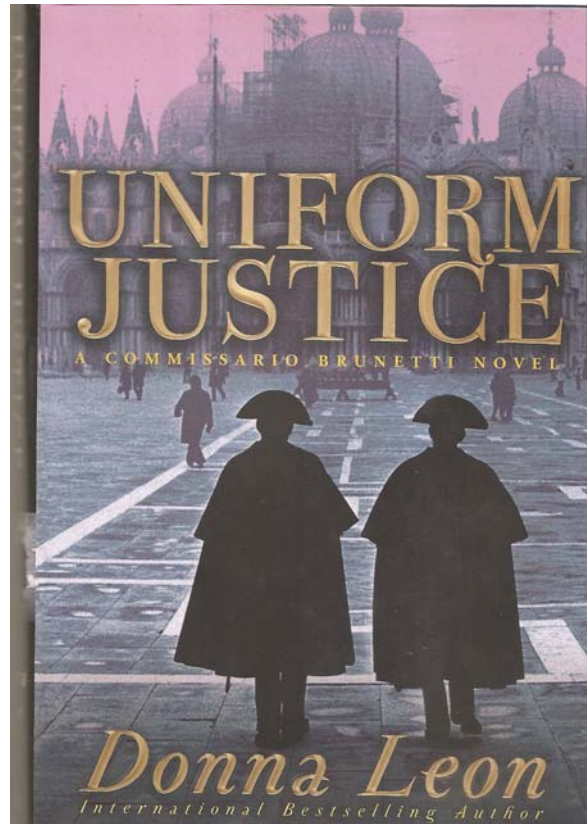
**Imperial Power Politics By An Eyewitness Who Hauls
Out All The Dirty Laundry**



Digitally preserved exact reproduction of the text as printed by the original publisher in 1698. Beautiful copy. 443 Pages, softcover

Publius Cornelius Tacitus (AD 56 – AD 117) was a senator and a historian of the Roman Empire. He is known for his penetrating insights into the psychology of power politics. Tacitus is considered to be one of the greatest Roman historians.

Uniform (In)Justice



Hardcover, 293 pages: beautiful condition

Generals, top politicians and other scum do their best to stop the investigation of corruption and murder that involves military commanders and the government. Fiction of course; nothing like that could really happen, could it?

**Prize #4 & 5:
May 1917: Russia
The War Bonds That Brought On A Revolution
[Two Denominations Available]**

In February 1917, Russian workers and soldiers rose in revolution to overthrow a feudal government that had dragged them into an Imperial War, World War 1, where Russians died, at home and in the Army, for the glory and greed of the Czar, Emperor of Russia.

Having gotten rid of him, they thought the new government, led by Prime Minister Kerensky, would stop the war. Instead, in May 1917, he floated the Kerensky War Loan, gold backed bonds to borrow \$188 million, to pay for keeping Russia in the war. **[Gee, does that betrayal sound familiar?]**

Seeing that nothing less would do, 6 months later the elected soldiers' and workers' councils organized a second revolution that wiped Kerensky's government of generals, war profiteers, crooked politicians, and capitalists off the face of the earth.



These are the Kerensky war bonds: The blue is for 500 gold rubles, the red for 1000 gold rubles.

P.S. They were purchased on 9.1.64 from (no joke) Carl Marks & Co., Inc., New York. If you win one, you'll get a copy of the bill of sale.

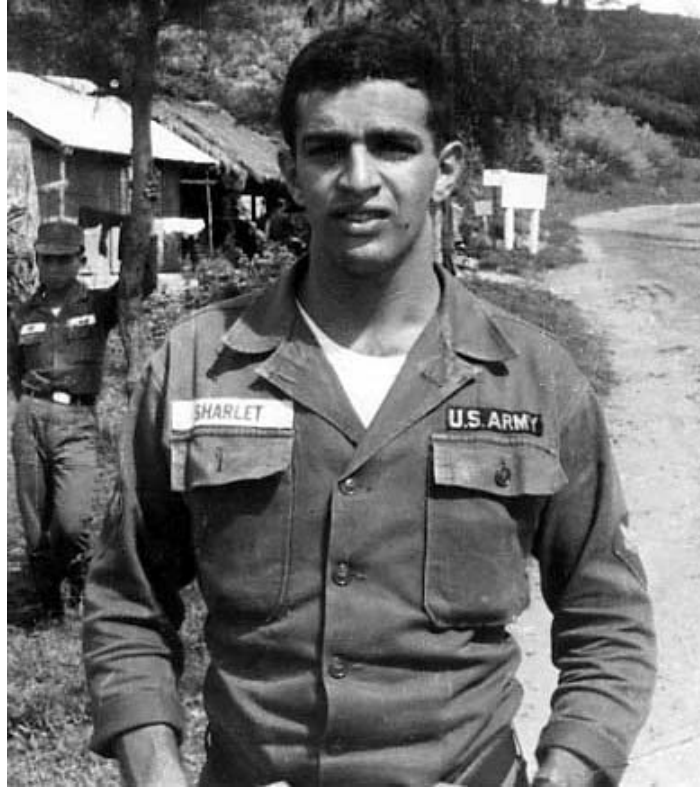
Prize #6: Vietnam GI: Complete

A complete set of Vietnam GIs. The originals were a bit rough, sometimes a line at the bottom gone, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.

Edited by Jeff Sharlet until his death (see below), this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command.

The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here:

Vietnam GI



Jeff Sharlet Dies

**VIETNAM GI
August 1969**

Many good men never came back from Nam. Some came back disabled in mind. Jeff Sharlet came back a pretty together cat--and he came back angry. Jeff started VGI, and for almost two years poured his life into it, in an endless succession of 18-hour days trying to organize men to fight for their own rights.

On Monday, June 16th, at 2:45 pm, Jeff died in the Miami VA Hospital. He died of a sudden heart failure, brought on by the uncontrollable growth of the cancer that had earlier destroyed his kidney.

There was no way to save him. He was only 27 years old.

Rather than wait for the draft, like so many others Jeff went RA. With dreams of seeing Europe, he applied for "translator-interpreter", and found himself at the US Army Language School at Monterey, California. But instead of French, Czech or German, he was assigned a strange language called "Vietnamese"--. spoken in a country he couldn't even find on the map. For eleven months in 1962 he was drilled in Vietnamese.

In 1963 he was assigned to Army Security Agency, and left for his first tour in Nam. Stationed in Saigon awhile, Jeff witnessed the ARVN coup that overthrew Saigon dictator Ngo Diem.

On his second tour his ASA unit was stationed near Phu Bai. Engaged in top-secret work monitoring, decoding and translating North Vietnamese radio messages, they wore AF uniforms and worked at a small air base.

But every time they went into the bars, every bargirl could reel off all the facts about their mission.

Speaking the language well, Jeff could talk to many Vietnamese about what was happening to their country.

He spent long hours questioning ex-Foreign Legion men, who'd settled in Vietnam after the French left, peasants, ARVN officers, students, and even suspected VC agents. By the time he ETSed in July, 1964 he'd put a lot of pieces together.

Jeff went back to school, and got his college degree (with honors) from Indiana University in 1967.

During his "GI Bill years" he joined the peace movement, and became chairman of his local chapter of Students for a Democratic Society.

But he had become increasingly disillusioned about the student movement, and felt that its shallowness and snotty attitude towards other people made it ineffective.

That summer he went to New York City to work with Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and it was there that he decided to try to organize other GIs to fight the brass. Jeff had won a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for graduate study at the University of Chicago.

He enrolled and" picked up his check. From then on all his time and money were sunk into starting a newspaper for servicemen.

After two years of endless traveling, fund-raising and writing, Jeff's drive started to fade. That restless energy that had brought him countless miles to base after base wasn't there.

After his last trip to Ft. Hood in the Fall of 1968, Jeff complained that he was really beat, burnt out. We all agreed that he should go "on leave" and take a rest.

It was while visiting friends in Boston that the first really severe pains started. Jeff flew home to Florida, and entered the hospital.

From there it was steadily downhill all the way.

The removal of his left kidney, massive radiation treatments, drugs--nothing stopped the growth of his cancer.

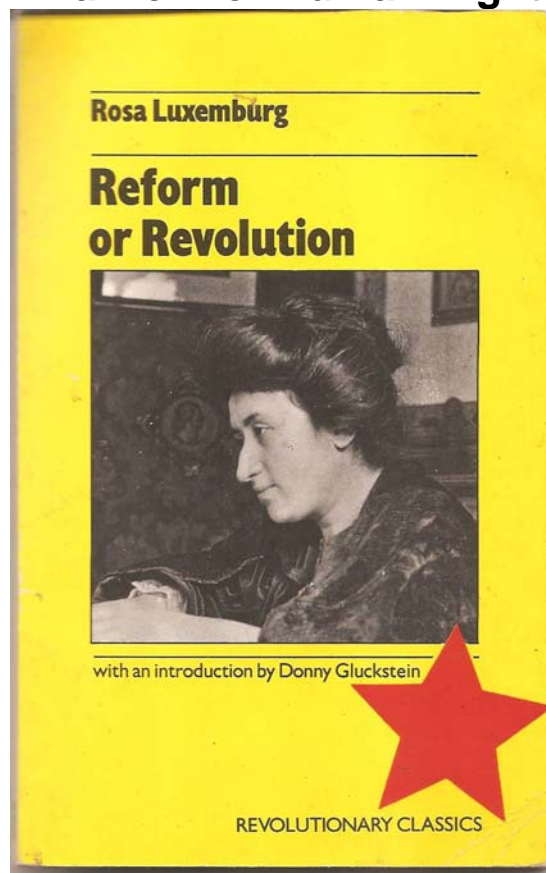
At the end he was weak and emaciated, without enough breath in his lungs to speak for more than a few sentences.

He said that he had many new ideas for our fight, but was just too exhausted to talk about them.

Jeff was a truly rare man.

He was our friend and comrade, and those of us who came together in this fight will never forget him. VGI, the paper that so many readers called "the truth paper," will go on fighting.

Prize #6: A Warrior For Human Rights:

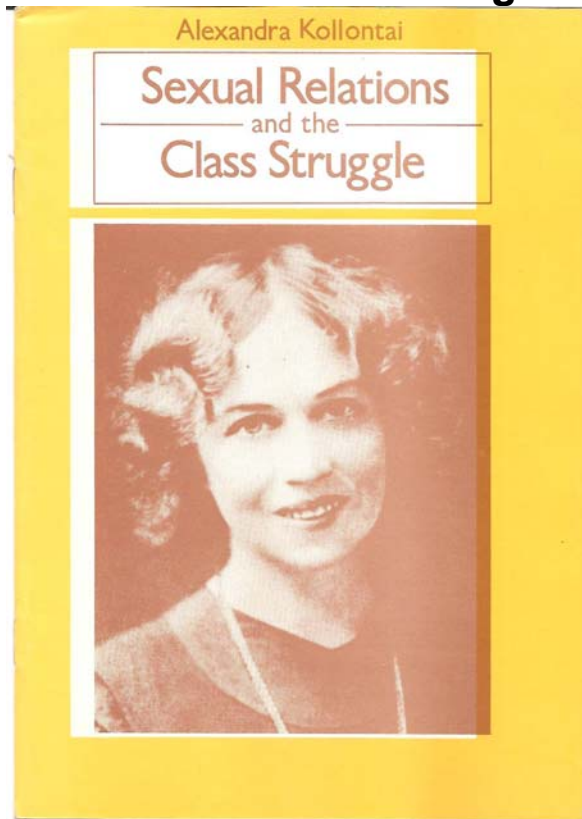


Perfect, mint copy: 94 Pages softcover

Rosa Luxemburg was a socialist in Germany during the early twentieth century, who insisted that ordinary working people could fight and win battles for not only improvements in their daily working conditions, but also the struggle to create a society based on justice and equality.

Luxemburg's argument is sharp and to the point, making it a great read.

**Prize #7:
A Warrior For Human Rights:**

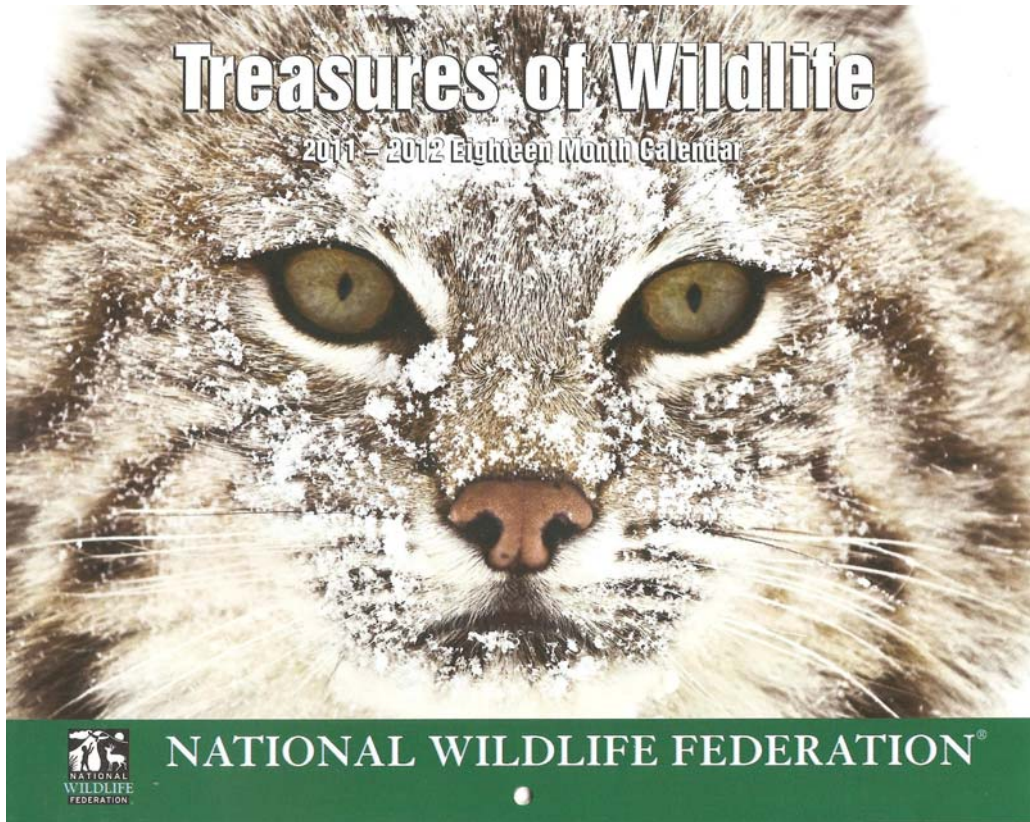


Out Of Print Pamphlet: Perfect Condition:

Alexandra Mikhailovna Kollontai (March 31 1872 – March 9, 1952) was a Russian Communist revolutionary. In 1919 she became the first female government minister in Europe. In 1923, she was appointed Soviet Ambassador to Norway, becoming the world's first female ambassador in modern times.

Kollontai raised eyebrows with her unflinching advocacy of free love. She viewed marriage and traditional families as legacies of the oppressive, property-rights-based, egoist past. Kollontai was the subject of the 1994 TV film, *A Wave of Passion: The Life of Alexandra Kollontai*, with Glenda Jackson as the voice of Kollontai.

**Prize #9:
National Wildlife Federation 18 Month Calendar Sept.
2011–December 2012.
The photos are truly beautiful.
11x8 1/2**



**Prize #10:
Travel Care Fabric Steamer/Wrinkle Remover**



Never used. Box top creased; steamer perfect.

Prizes #11, 12, 13 Ten Different Early Issues Of GI Special

Because most readers have come on within the last four years, many people have never seen early GI Specials.

None in these prizes will be more recent than 2004.

A slice of history.

[Example of front page:]

GI Special: thomasfbarton@earthlink.net 4.27.04

Print it out (color best). Pass it on.

GI SPECIAL 2#67

BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE



US special forces carry a body bag following an attack on US military Humvees in Baghdad that blew up four US military vehicles. (AFP/Marwan Naamani)

Call To Organize From Iraq Vet:

“Together We Can End This Occupation”

From: <http://www.bringthemhomenow.com/> Posted 4.24.04

To My Fellow Troops in the Iraq War

Being in today's military can be a very tough thing, a feeling that is even worse when you don't believe in what you are fighting for.

I was in that situation a year ago when I was in Iraq with the 1st Marine Division.

I knew the war I was fighting in was wrong but I didn't see myself as having much choice. I knew that as soon as I left the Middle East I would make my feelings known and that is something I have done.

The greatest surprise to me since then is that people have actually listened to me.

People really want to hear what I have to say about the war. Average people want to hear my thoughts and experiences, both good and bad.

The country isn't divided like we see in the news. Not everyone is for or against the war. Many people still don't know how they feel about what is going on in Iraq. The voice of someone who has served there carries more weight than you could ever imagine.

I've changed someone's perspective on the war any number of times simply sitting on a barstool next to them and talking about what I know.

So now you might be asking how you can actually make your voice heard. I know for those of you in the service sounding off is much harder than for the recent veterans like myself, but you can still speak out.

All of us, veterans, reservists, National Guard and active duty, can side with Military Families Speak Out, Veterans For Peace, and other folks standing up to stop the senseless killing of Americans and Iraqis. Those of us with direct experience in this disastrous occupation need to make our voices heard. Active duty troops don't even have to "speak" yourselves. Just letting those of us who are now out know that you side with us lends weight to our cause and speaks volumes.

Imagine walking up to George Bush and saying that there are 100, 200, 300, 1000, 5000 or more participants from his "War on Terror" who oppose the US occupation in Iraq.

That's the kind of force that can end this war, just like it did in Vietnam. Together we can end this occupation and save the lives of our fellow American servicemen and women.

Michael Hoffman
Veteran, USMC 2nd Marine division, Artillery
Served with 1st Marine Division in 2003 invasion of Iraq
Contact Michael at iraqvet@mail.com with questions or to join the cause.

[END PRIZES]

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