

## Military Resistance 9L2



**“They’ve Earned The Right To Wear Their Uniform At Protests As Far As I’m Concerned”**

**“If I Ever Return To The States, I’ll Be Joining These Guys And Sporting My Battle Dress Uniform Right Along With All The Other Guys Wearing Whatever Branch Uniform They Served In”**

# “Congress Sure As Shit Doesn’t Care About Us”

Army Times Forum  
11.18.11

[Re: “‘Occupy Wall Street’: Should veterans be rallying for the movement?” Army Times Forums, mid-November]

They’ve earned the right to wear their uniform at protests as far as I’m concerned.

It would be completely different if it were some paid actors or Hollywood making a mess of things; more people should find that offensive instead, but such is not the case.

I’m glad they’re out in uniform making their point while giving us more of a voice.

[A sergeant] said in his interview on television that so many vets are afraid to speak out since they’re still in the mindset of the UCMJ.

Who the hell cares?

The public now needs to be reminded who pays for their Whopper Value Meal and their hi-def TVs with blood, our blood. Congress sure as shit doesn’t care about us.

If I ever return to the states, I’ll be joining these guys and sporting my Battle Dress Uniform right along with all the other guys wearing whatever branch uniform they served in.

Hell, yeah.

— Machine666

## **DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN MILITARY SERVICE?**

**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**

# AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

## Oklahoma National Guard Soldier Laid To Rest In Ochelata

11.13.2011 By JERRY WOFFORD, World Staff Writer, Tulsa World

BARTLESVILLE - Thousands gathered here Saturday to say goodbye to their fallen hero, whose smile and heart touched so many.

Sgt. Christopher Drew Gailey, 26, of Ochelata was laid to rest, but his kindness and positive outlook will never be forgotten by the people who knew him.

His sister, Angie Niko, said that everyone she spoke with about Gailey over the past week knew that kindness.

"They only had great things to say about him, and that's cemented that knowledge in my mind," Niko said during funeral services for Gailey at the Bartlesville Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Gailey was killed Nov. 1 in Afghanistan's Paktia province when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during a supply mission, according to a release from the Oklahoma National Guard.

Gailey and Spc. Sarina Butcher, 19, of Checotah, were killed in the same attack.

Both were assigned to Company F, 700th Brigade Support Battalion, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, based in Sand Springs, according to the Guard.

Butcher was buried Friday in McCaskill, Ark.

**Gailey and Butcher were the 13th and 14th Oklahoma National Guard soldiers killed since July.**

Family described Gailey as a rambunctious kid who was full of energy, an energy that never left him but was directed toward helping others later in life.

"He was the kid that ate ashes out of the fireplace - forget the fact that (Gailey's brother) Beau probably told him it tasted like chocolate," Niko joked.

Gailey enlisted in the Guard in 2004, a year before he graduated from Caney Valley High School.

He served a deployment to Iraq in 2007-08 as a motor vehicle operator.

Chaplain David Jordan said he developed a strong relationship with Gailey during their time in service together. He first met Gailey in the gym.

"The thing we shared at the time is we were both woefully out of shape," Jordan said. So they worked together to get ready for their upcoming deployment.

"Every day there would be a friendly smile and a welcome," Jordan said.

"He was always glad to see me."

Jordan said it has been a difficult time for those in Oklahoma and the soldiers in the 45th IBCT, but Gailey had a particularly difficult time when one of his friends was killed there.

"What I was so overwhelmed by was his tender heart," Jordan said. "He made such a difference in so many lives."

Gailey got to come home for leave on his birthday in September.

"In the two weeks he was here on leave, he sure packed 10 pounds in a 5-pound bag," joked Shan Gailey, Chris Gailey's father.

When they said goodbye at the airport, Chris Gailey walked away from his parents as they watched.

Shan Gailey asked if his wife, Tammy Gailey, was ready to go.

"I want to watch him until I can't see him anymore," Tammy Gailey said.

It's those times, like his recent leave and the funny stories the family shared, that are important to remember, Shan Gailey said.

"Keep good memories of him," Shan Gailey said. "Keep him in your heart."

After the service in Bartlesville, a line of cars more than a mile long traveled to Ochelata Cemetery, on top of a hill overlooking Ochelata and the rolling plains of northeast Oklahoma.

Family, friends and people who did not know Gailey but wanted to thank him for his sacrifice lined the 12 miles of the highway, their American flags whipping wildly in the strong winds.

A bright orange and yellow sun set behind colorful wispy clouds as the crowd gathered around Gailey's final resting place, his motorcycle nearby.

His family was presented with numerous medals Chris Gailey received posthumously, including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. Shan and Tammy Gailey, and Chris Gailey's daughter, Allison Gailey, were given folded American flags by Maj. Gen. Myles Deering, adjutant general for Oklahoma.

Tina Gailey, Chris Gailey's sister, read part of an email from Chris where he told her how we wanted to be remembered if he died.

"I want people to think I helped where I could when I could," Tina Gailey read from one of Chris Gailey's emails to her.

"He loved you. He truly did."

Survivors include his parents, Shan and Tammy Gailey of Ochelata; his daughter, Allison Marie Gailey of Bartlesville; one brother, Beau Dugan of Merriam, Kan.; two sisters, Angelina Janelle Niko of Bartlesville and Kristina Jeanette Gailey of Stillwater; his paternal grandmother, Lela Belle Gailey of Marshfield, Mo.; his maternal grandparents, Carl Eugene Maples and his wife Carol of Joplin, Mo.; one uncle, Jesse Robert Gailey; four aunts, Barbara Jane Foster, Shawn Dee Adams, Many Alice Maples and Sonya Jolene Hamblin and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

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## **Mourners Pay Final Respects To La Porte Soldier Killed In Afghanistan**

November 21, 2011 By LINDSAY WISE, HOUSTON CHRONICLE

No one who knew Cody Norris ever doubted he was destined to become a soldier.

Norris drove a 1952 Army truck he had refurbished, hung out at the local military museum and joined the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps in his freshman year at La Porte High School, long before he was old enough to enlist.

The 20-year-old finally was living his dream as an Army infantryman when he was killed by enemy fire Nov. 9 during his first deployment to Afghanistan.

"He loved what he was doing," said Pastor Jim Bob Benton, who gave the eulogy at Norris' funeral on Monday. "It was like he was made to do what he was doing, and he loved his family, and those two things came together to bring him where he was."

More than 400 mourners packed the sanctuary and spilled into an overflow room at First United Methodist Church in La Porte to honor Norris, a private first class assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Norris' love of the military was evident in all his activities, from paintball and deer hunting, to video games and ROTC. At age 16 or 17, Benton said, Norris convinced his stepfather to let him buy an old M37 Army truck, which he fixed up and drove to classes.

"It wasn't a fast ride," Benton said. "It took an hour, hour and a half, every day, back and forth," but the slow commute didn't bother Norris.

"As his dad said, Cody marched to the beat of his own drum," and wasn't afraid to be himself, Benton said, even if that meant driving an antique truck or wearing camouflage outfits and Superman capes.

"He didn't follow trends," Benton said. "He was a trend-setter. He knew who he was supposed to be and he lived like that."

Norris joined the Army in 2010, not long after graduating from La Porte High.

He briefly returned home from Afghanistan on leave last month to celebrate his 20th birthday with family and friends.

Norris savored the time with his loved ones, but "he was eager to go back," Benton said. "He knew he needed to go back. He had buddies he wanted to protect and one of the things he told everybody was, 'Look, I'm not afraid to die.'"

He quoted Norris' own words on his Facebook page: "I love what I do as my job and my dream in life and no one can take that way from me. I am trained by the best, and I will be the best as I can. Wanna do all I can for the ones I love and my country. To keep all of us free!!! Even if it means death."

Benton closed with a prayer of thanks for Norris' service, "and all the things for which he fought. May we never take them for granted." To have known Norris was a gift from God, the pastor said.

"That's not something that can be taken away," Benton said. "He's with us. He'll be with us always, forever young."

Norris is survived by his father, Reese Norris, mother Terri Vegil-Norris, stepfather Kenneth Rogers, grandparents Robert and Patricia Vegil and Geneva Pynes, and older brother Michael Norris, a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

His flag-draped coffin was escorted to the cemetery at Grand View Memorial Park in Pasadena by an honor guard of police and motorcycle-riding Patriot Guard Riders.

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

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

**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](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.**

## **MILITARY NEWS**

### **THIS IS HOW OBAMA BRINGS THEM HOME: ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



The remains of Marine Cpl. Adam J. Buyes of Salem, Ore., at Dover Air Force Base, Del. Nov. 30, 2011. Buyes was on foot patrol Saturday when he died in Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)...

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### **Local Veteran Waited Nearly Two Years For PTSD Treatment: “Simpson Is Now An Antiwar Activist And Also Helps Other Veterans Cope With PTSD”**

November 30, 2011 Jeff Van Sant, Q13 FOX News reporter

New figures show VA hospitals are becoming overwhelmed by cases of veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

More than 211,000 U.S. veterans of the 1.3 million who have served in the Iraq and Afghan wars have been treated for PTSD. One of them is Joshua Simpson, an Iraq war veteran.

While on a mission in Iraq, he saw an Iraqi get killed and he had to search the body for intelligence.

"I could see like blood starting to pool out from under him and ... I was thinking to myself, like this doesn't bother me anymore. And that's kind of when I realized that like I was suffering from something," Simpson said.

It's a memory he can't shake. Simpson is now an antiwar activist and also helps other veterans cope with PTSD.

For Simpson, getting help has been an uphill battle.

"It took about almost a year and half for me to really hear anything back from them. Actually, I filed for it right before I started grad school and then by the very end of grad school, which was like two years, I finally heard back from them."

Simpson said it's only going to get busier for the VA.

"Think of how many people served in Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. "Two-hundred-thousand (treated for PTSD) still seems low; that means there's still a lot of people yet to file claims."

Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., an advocate for veterans, said lack of VA services is a major issue.

"Of the VA providers that were surveyed, nearly 40% said they cannot schedule an appointment in their own clinic within the VA-mandated 14-day window," Murray said.

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## **“Ten Leading U.S. Lenders May Have Unlawfully Foreclosed On The Mortgages Of Nearly 5,000 Active-Duty Members Of The US Military” “Chase Bank Has Even Auctioned Off The Home Of A Military Member The Very Day That He Returned From Iraq”**

Nov 29, 2011 By Pat Garofalo, Think Progress



For months, major banks have been dealing with the fallout of the “robo-signing” scandal, following reports that the banks were improperly foreclosing on homeowners and, in many instances, falsifying paperwork that they were submitting to courts. Banks have been forced to go back and re-examine foreclosures to ensure that homeowners did not lose their homes unlawfully.

In the latest episode of this mess, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency has found that banks — including Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and Citigroup — may have improperly foreclosed on up to 5,000 active members of the military:

Ten leading US lenders may have unlawfully foreclosed on the mortgages of nearly 5,000 active-duty members of the US military in recent years, according to data released by a federal regulator.

The data released by the OCC are based on estimates prepared by lenders and their consultants. BofA said it is reviewing 2,400 foreclosures involving active-duty military families to see if they were conducted properly. Wells Fargo is reviewing 870 foreclosures and Citigroup is looking at 700 cases.

Also under review are 575 foreclosures at OneWest, formerly known as IndyMac; 87 at HSBC; 80 at US Bancorp; 56 at Aurora, formerly known as Lehman Brothers Bank; 25 at MetLife; six at Sovereign; and three at EverBank.

Back in April, JPMorgan Chase, which was not one of the 10 banks that the OCC examined, agreed to a \$56 million settlement over allegations that it had overcharged members of the military on their mortgages.

Chase Bank has even auctioned off the home of a military member the very day that he returned from Iraq. Two other mortgage servicers agreed in May to settle charges of improperly foreclosing on servicemembers.

**Even without the banks illegally foreclosing, military members have been hard hit by the foreclosure crisis.**

**Last year alone, 20,000 members of the military faced foreclosure, a 32 percent increase over 2008.**

The newly created Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is tasked with ensuring that military members are treated fairly by financial services companies — a job that is obviously necessary — but Republicans in Congress have, so far, refused to confirm a director for the agency, leaving it unable to fulfill all of its responsibilities.

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## **Brain Injured Troops Betrayed By DoD Fraud:**

**Lawmakers Required The Military  
“To Test Soldiers' Brain Function  
Before They Deployed And Again  
When They Returned” So  
Traumatic Brain Injuries Could Be  
Detected And Treated:  
The Military Chose ANAM, “A Test  
That Wasn't Actually Proven To  
Detect TBI,” But Cost More Than \$42  
Million:  
“The People Who Invented ANAM And  
Stood To Make Money From It Were  
Involved In The Military's Decision To  
Use It”**

Nov. 28, 2011 by Joaquin Sapien and T. Christian Miller, ProPublica, and Daniel Zwerdling, NPR [Excerpts]

In 2007, with roadside bombs exploding across Iraq, Congress moved to improve care for soldiers who had suffered one of the war's signature wounds, traumatic brain injury.

Lawmakers passed a measure requiring the military to test soldiers' brain function before they deployed and again when they returned.

The test was supposed to ensure that soldiers received proper treatment.

Instead, an investigation by ProPublica and NPR has found, the testing program has failed to deliver on its promise, offering soldiers the appearance of help, but not the reality.

**Racing to satisfy Congress' mandate, the military chose a test that wasn't actually proven to detect TBI: the Automated Neuropsychological Assessment Metric, or ANAM.**

**Four years later, more than a million troops have taken the test at a cost of more than \$42 million to taxpayers, yet the military still has no reliable way to catch brain injuries.**

When such injuries are left undetected, it can delay healing and put soldiers at risk for further mental damage.

Based on corporate and government records, confidential documents, scores of interviews and emails obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, our investigation found:

- The people who invented ANAM and stood to make money from it were involved in the military's decision to use it, prompting questions about the impartiality of the selection process.**

**No other tests received serious consideration.**

**A report by the Army's top neuropsychologist circulated last year to key members of Congress labeled the selection process "nepotistic."**

- The Pentagon's civilian leadership has ignored years of warnings, public and private, that there was insufficient scientific evidence the ANAM can screen for or diagnose traumatic brain injury.**

The military's highest-ranking medical official said the test was "fraught with problems." Another high-ranking officer said it could yield misleading results.

- Compounding flaws in the ANAM's design, the military has not administered the test as recommended and has rarely used its results.**

The Army has so little confidence in the test that its top medical officer issued an explicit order that soldiers whose scores indicated cognitive problems should not be sent for further medical evaluation.

- Top Pentagon officials have misrepresented the cost of the test, indicating that because the Army invented the ANAM, the military could use it for free.**

**In fact, because the military licensed its invention to outside contractors, it has paid millions of dollars to use its own technology.**

- The military has not conducted a long-promised head-to-head study to make sure the ANAM is the best available test, delaying it for years. Instead, a series of committees have given lukewarm approval to continue using the ANAM, largely to avoid losing the data gathered so far.**

**Several current and former military medical officials criticized the Defense Department's embrace of a scientifically unproven tool to use on hundreds of thousands of soldiers with TBIs.**

**"The test was not developed for the purposes of identifying the kinds of problems that we see in concussions," said Dr. Stephen Xenakis, a retired brigadier general**

**and former adviser on mental health issues to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.**

The test was picked "without asking ourselves the questions: what are we trying to achieve here and what are we going to use the screenings for?"

"We have failed soldiers," says retired Col. Mary Lopez, who used to manage the Army's testing program. "It is incredibly frustrating because I can see first-hand the soldiers that we've missed, the soldiers that have not been treated, not been identified, (or) misdiagnosed. And then they struggle."

### **A Test to Identify Invisible Wounds**

On a crisp morning in early September, about 40 uniformed soldiers mill around outside a squat rectangular building on the Fort Lewis-McChord military base near Tacoma, Wash.

They are scheduled to ship out to Afghanistan in a matter of weeks and must take the ANAM before they go. Filing into the testing facility, they take seats in front of computers.

ANAM proctor Felix Rios, a former first sergeant who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, does a quick Power Point presentation on the test. There will be 20 minutes of questions covering basic math, memory and reaction time.

Taking the ANAM is the first step in protecting soldiers from the effects of brain injuries, Rios tells the group.

"One of the best ways to tell if something's affecting you is to know how you were before it happened. That's what you do here with ANAM," Rios says.

The soldiers leave feeling comforted.

"I felt reassured," Lt. Benjamin Lewis Westman said after completing the test. It was good, "knowing that the Army is taking steps to ensure people are taken care of."

The military's foray into cognitive testing reflects the types of wounds troops have sustained fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Soldiers have suffered an epidemic of concussions, also known as mild traumatic brain injuries, in bombings by insurgents. While most troops recovered quickly, some developed long-term cognitive problems. They couldn't think, read, write or remember the way they had.

Too often, their injuries were missed on the battlefield and, even after they returned home, eluded more sophisticated scanning technology: Studies showed that up to 40 percent of troops who sustained concussions went undiagnosed.

After a 2007 Washington Post series exposed the grim condition of soldiers with brain injuries at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Congress pushed to create a program to screen soldiers for such wounds.

It's not surprising that the military, under pressure to act quickly, looked to the ANAM.

ANAM had been developed in-house.

## **Follow The Money Trail**

**Other factors also tilted the selection process in ANAM's favor, sparking a lingering debate over whether the interests of the test's developers trumped those of soldiers.**

In February 2007, researchers at Fort Detrick paid the publisher of the Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology to release a supplemental issue on ANAM, including several articles that endorsed its use in detecting traumatic brain injury.

**Some of the authors had a financial stake in the test, owning patents or trademarks on it, and others received military contracts and funding to help develop the ANAM, but the details of their interests weren't disclosed.**

In October 2007, when the military convened a panel of experts to weigh the ANAM's pros and cons, the journal issue was among its primary sources of information, according to internal emails between panel members and senior military medical officials.

**In addition, several ANAM developers testified at the panel's sole meeting and one even sat on the committee.**

**"It just screams conflict of interest," said Professor Marcia Angell, a former editor of the New England Journal of Medicine who is now a senior lecturer on social medicine at Harvard Medical School.**

**"I mean here you have a situation where the same people are sellers, buyers and evaluators."**

Panel members were hardly blind to the ANAM's flaws.

**In their report, they noted there was no scientific proof that the test could work in the field and acknowledged that it hadn't been subjected to rigorous peer review.**

**The committee recommended ANAM anyway.**

In May 2008, S. Ward Casscells, then the senior civilian Pentagon official in charge of health affairs, issued an order to use the ANAM across the military.

**Competitors who pitched other testing software maintain the playing field was slanted and that soldiers have been ill-served.**

**"It remains unfathomable why the procurement process at the top was maneuvered so that soldiers were denied useful and usable screening tools for the signature injuries of these wars," said Don Comrie, chief executive of PanMedix, Inc., which markets a competitive test.**

**"As a result we still don't know who was exposed to a blast and what, if anything, is wrong with them."**

### **“The National Hockey League Managed To Pick A Better Test Than The Pentagon Did”**

Casscells and Schoomaker say the selection process was comprehensive and fair.

But some researchers, including retired Lt. Col. Michael Russell, the head of the Army's testing program, say

The NHL evaluated five tests, looking for the option that was most accurate, best supported by research, and easiest to use for trainers and players, many of whom were not English speakers.

It chose the ImPact, a 20-minute computerized test that requires the athlete to remember and then reconstruct a series of designs and patterns. By the beginning of 2007, every player had taken a baseline test.

**Several NFL teams also use the ImPact, as does Army Special Forces, which said it based its decision on a review of scientific literature.**

**Russell, the military's leading civilian neuropsychologist, called the ANAM a poor choice.**

"If they had said, would you like to use something else, I probably would have said, yes, I'd like to use something else," he said.

### **Using ANAM Test Is “Malpractice”**

**During and after the selection process, the testing program was met with deep skepticism from top military medical officers, internal correspondence obtained by ProPublica and NPR shows.**

**In a series of emails, Col. Charles Hoge, a leading Army psychiatrist, warned senior members of the medical command that the evidence supporting the ANAM, or any tool like it, was flimsy and that using it to screen soldiers for brain injuries could lead to misdiagnoses.**

**"Rolling out ANY diagnostic or clinical test on a population level ... without objective and reliable criteria for how the data will be interpreted and used is malpractice," Hoge wrote in November 2007 to several senior medical officials.**

Lt. Col. Mike Jaffee -- a neurologist then in charge of the military's premier brain injury center and a member of the panel that recommended the ANAM -- responded that the military didn't have a better option. "There are currently no instruments that have been validated for blast or combat TBI," he wrote.

### **“The Decision To Use The ANAM Was Based On Politics, Not Science”**

**The decision to use the ANAM was based on politics, not science, Jaffee acknowledged to Hoge.**

**"The bottom line is because of the political situation we have been told that studying the situation before acting is not an acceptable option" to the Defense Department, he wrote.**

**"Congress can mandate till the cows come home," Hoge shot back. "The right thing to do is to go back and help Congress to understand what is feasible and achievable."**

When Casscells issued the order to administer the ANAM to all troops before deployment, the Army's top medical officer pushed back.

In a confidential email obtained by ProPublica and NPR, then Army Surgeon General Eric Schoomaker told Casscells that more than 30 military and civilian neuropsychologists, researchers and other experts had reviewed the ANAM at an Army symposium in June 2008.

**"All were very cautious about the application of this technology -- it is not FDA-approved for screening for a mild TBI/concussion and has not been evaluated for sensitivity/specificity in this setting," Schoomaker wrote. "Its use in this regard is fraught with problems."**

Three minutes later, Casscells dashed off a two-sentence reply -- "Thanks for these wise caveats. Your scholarly standards!" -- but his order stood.

In a recent interview, Casscells said he and Schoomaker came to an understanding on the ANAM "that half a loaf was better than none."

Schoomaker subsequently issued an order mandating the use of the ANAM across the Army, prompting another round of internal protests.

**In a November 2008 email, one senior adviser sent Schoomaker a Power Point presentation saying that ANAM test results were "misleading" and that using them could jeopardize the credibility of the military medical establishment.**

Faced with the backlash, Schoomaker modified his order, issuing a follow-up that limited the test's use in critical ways.

### **The Traitor Schoomaker Decides To Defy Congress;**

**He decided that soldiers would not have to take the test upon their return to the U.S. from the battlefield, though Congress required post-deployment testing by law.**

### **The Traitor Schoomaker Forbids Treating Troops For Brain Injuries If The ANAM Test Signals Brain Injuries**

**Schoomaker also ordered that soldiers who scored badly -- or "red" in testing lingo -- on their pre-deployment tests would not be referred for follow-up evaluations to see if they had an undiagnosed brain injury.**

**In a written statement to ProPublica and NPR, Schoomaker said soldiers with symptoms were urged to see doctors, but not based on ANAM scores. "For some people 'red' is their normal score," he said of the test.**

**Several neurologists, in and out of the military, said they considered Schoomaker's order to ignore low baseline scores to be unethical.**

The Navy and Marines, unlike the Army, refer troops for further attention if they score poorly on their pre-deployment ANAM.

"It's our obligation as medical providers to our patients to try to figure out if there is something going on that needs to be treated," said Navy Commander Jack Tsao, a neurologist who runs the ANAM program for those branches of the service.

Lopez said that by ignoring poor baseline scores, the Army risked sending soldiers with cognitive problems into war.

### **"This Is Horrible And It Goes Against Our Medical Ethics And Moral Responsibilities"**

"This is horrible and it goes against our medical ethics and moral responsibilities," she said. "They just lock up these results in a box and never look at them before clearing soldiers to deploy."

**Despite the many concerns with the ANAM, many experts say the test could have helped detect brain injuries in soldiers if it had been used properly.**

**Instead, the military has implemented the test in ways that have undercut its value, according to interviews and internal emails obtained by ProPublica and NPR.**

One example: Troops take the ANAM just once before deploying, even though some of the test's developers have found that users should take it several times to produce a more accurate baseline score.

Without a reliable baseline, Russell and other specialists said, it's impossible to measure the change in a soldier's cognitive abilities after a blow to the head.



In a 2010 report, one military researcher called the testing effort "fundamentally flawed" because of the lack of accurate baselines.

More than 1 million soldiers have taken pre-deployment ANAM tests, but medical officials have requested test scores for comparative purposes just 11,000 times since 2008.

### **Doctors Face Substantial Obstacles In Accessing The Information.**

There's still no computer network that collects and stores test results or integrates them with the military's overall medical system.

A doctor in Afghanistan who wants an injured soldier's pre-deployment score has to call into a hotline where an employee creates a PDF with the test results, manually deletes private information such as Social Security numbers, and emails or faxes back the file.

**Fewer than 3,000 requests for ANAM test results have been made from the war zones in the last three years, according to recent estimates.**

**Yet more than 90,000 troops suffered traumatic brain injuries during that time, according to the military's official figures.**

### **"Free" Test Costs a Bundle**

**When the military chose the ANAM, one of its selling points -- at least, in the eyes of some involved in the decision -- was that it was free.**

"The ANAM, as I understand it, was owned by the Department of Defense. It was developed in conjunction with the Army. So there was no cost to it," said Dr. Paul Hammer, director of the Defense Veterans Brain Injury Center.

Lt. Col. Jaffee, who sat on the panel that recommended ANAM, has said in emails [20] and slideshow presentations that ANAM was picked in large part because it was "the only tool available free of charge to DoD."

**But even though the ANAM was developed by military researchers, the Defense Department no longer owned the test by the time it went looking for a screening tool.**

**This was not unusual: To spur innovation, the agency allows government scientists to license their inventions to outside businesses as long as the military shares in the profits.**

In February 2006, the lab that employed the ANAM researchers licensed the ANAM to the University of Oklahoma, which would help refine the test at its cognitive research lab.

The university then struck a deal with Vista Partners, a contractor based in Colorado, to market the test and handle sales.

So far, the university and Vista have sold the ANAM to a handful of civilian hospitals and researchers, but their biggest customer has been the military.

**The Defense Department pays Vista about \$2 million a year in user fees for the ANAM, according to contracting documents and interviews.**

Oklahoma University gets a 12 percent cut of sales, sending a portion back to the military lab that invented the test. The Defense Department also pays the university \$1 million a year for making improvements to the test, Russell said.

**On top of that, the military has paid Eyak Services, an Alaska-based contractor, \$30 million over the last four years to give soldiers the ANAM test.**

**An additional \$6.8 million has gone to another contractor, Evolvent, to build an electronic system to collect and distribute test results, though this effort remains incomplete.**

**The program's total price tag tops \$42 million, records show.**

Rep. Bill Pascrell, D-N.J., who helped author the bill to create the program, is disappointed with the way the money has been spent.

"This is not adequate," said Pascrell in an interview with ProPublica and NPR. "You're doing harm to these veterans and these wonderful warriors and their families, and we're not going to put up with it. This is not what we paid for."

### **As Problems Emerge, Little Action**

Military officials openly acknowledged problems with the TBI testing program at two congressional hearings last year.

In April, Dr. Charles Rice, the president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, testified to a House Armed Services subcommittee that the ANAM might not accurately reflect soldiers' cognitive abilities. The next day, Schoomaker was even more blunt, telling lawmakers the test was no more accurate than a "coin flip."

Following those hearings, Pascrell and two other congressmen requested a comprehensive report on the program.

**In September, Russell delivered a scathing 537-page report that slammed nearly every aspect of the ANAM program.**

The report -- which was obtained by ProPublica and NPR, but has never been released publicly -- begins by saying the "program's history is more troubled than commonly understood."

**Russell went on to lambaste the manner in which the test was chosen: "The selection of ANAM was nepotistic, and the long delay in examining alternative instruments is baffling."**

In the field, Russell said, the test had failed at "a basic level."

**It was unreliable and soldiers' scores often reflected factors such as fatigue that were unrelated to TBI.**

"This is unacceptable if the ANAM is to be considered a TBI test," Russell wrote.

There was one bright spot amid Russell's criticism: Though the ANAM could not diagnose TBI, he said, it could help doctors evaluate when soldiers who had suffered concussions were mentally fit to return to duty.

**Overall, however, Russell concluded that the problems with ANAM were so severe that "it appears that we may be doing our soldiers a disservice with the present baseline program."**

Pascrell said he was infuriated by Russell's findings.

**"There is no question in my mind that the Department of Defense violated the very essence of the law that we passed" to require testing, he said.**

In particular, he said, he was frustrated by the lack of post-deployment testing and the delay in comparing ANAM to other tests.

There are few signs that the changes Pascrell wants are imminent.

When the military initiated the testing program in 2008, it also created a panel of civilian experts to monitor it and other TBI-related issues.

At a meeting in August 2011, the panel discussed whether ANAM should be replaced, expanded, or used routinely post-deployment. Then it endorsed the status quo, partly to preserve the usefulness of data from tests already administered.

The committee's recommendations could be "expressed in one sentence, which is 'Continue to do what we're doing with the ANAM, but don't do more at this point,'" said Dr. Kurt Kroenke, the Indiana University professor of medicine who led the discussion.

**When S. Ward Casscells, the former head of Pentagon official health affairs, ordered the ANAM into use in May 2008, he depicted it as an interim measure and promised the military would launch a comprehensive study comparing it with other brain-injury tests.**

**Emails obtained by ProPublica and NPR show the comparison was supposed to be completed by November 2009, but it remains unfinished.**

**A recent report from the Government Accountability Office said the Defense Department doesn't expect the results until 2015 -- two years after the last troops are scheduled to leave Afghanistan.**

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## **FORWARD OBSERVATIONS**



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

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

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

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

Frederick Douglass, 1852

Hope for change doesn't cut it when you're still losing buddies.  
-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War

# Empire Police



Occupy Portland 11-12-11: Photo by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: November 17, 2011  
Subject: Empire Police

Photo and caption from the portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact at: [hastiemike@earthlink.net](mailto:hastiemike@earthlink.net)) T)

One day while I was in a bunker in Vietnam, a sniper round went over my head. The person who fired that weapon was not a terrorist, a rebel, an extremist, or a so-called insurgent. The Vietnamese individual who tried to kill me was a citizen of Vietnam, who did not want me in his country. This truth escapes millions.

Mike Hastie  
U.S. Army Medic  
Vietnam 1970-71  
December 13, 2004

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# The Road More Traveled

By Paul Hellweg; The Veteran Fall 2011; Vietnam Veterans Against the War

Paul Hellweg served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Xuan Loc in 1968. He is a member of both Veterans for Peace and Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and he is devoting his life to speaking out against war.

**We all had our reasons  
for joining the cause,  
patriotism  
idealism  
romanticism,  
and all too frequently, duress.  
But motivation no longer mattered  
as the road became  
pockmarked with land mines.  
Most of us  
were just along for the ride, and  
it came as quite the surprise  
when we finally figured out  
we weren't the ones  
in the driver's seat.**

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## ANNIVERSARIES

### **December 2, 1914: Courage In The Face Of The Enemy: One Member Of The German Parliament Votes Against Imperial War**



Karl Liebknecht

Carl Bunin Peace History Dec 26 - Dec 3

Karl Liebknecht was the only member of German Parliament to vote against war with France and Britain.

He was arrested shortly thereafter and conscripted into the German Army. Refusing to fight, Liebknecht served on the Eastern Front burying the dead.

\*\*\*\*\*

From: Spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk:

Karl Liebknecht, the son of Wilhelm Liebknecht, was born in Leipzig on 13th August, 1871. His father was one of Germany's leading socialists who helped form the Social Democratic Party in 1891.

Liebknecht studied law and political economy at Leipzig and Berlin where he was converted to the ideas of Karl Marx.

After serving with the Imperial Pioneer Guards in Potsdam (1893-94), Liebknecht worked as a lawyer in Westphalia before moving to Berlin in 1898.

Liebknecht became involved in smuggling socialist propaganda into Russia. He also defended others in court who had been arrested and tried for this offence.

Liebknecht also wrote extensively against militarism and this resulted in him being imprisoned for eighteen months in Glatz, Silesia.

In 1912 Liebknecht was elected to the Reichstag. On the left-wing of the Social Democratic Party, Liebknecht was one of the main opponents of the party's conservative leadership.

Liebknecht was opposed to Germany's participation in the First World War and at the end of 1914 joined with Rosa Luxemburg, Leo Jogiches, Paul Levi, Ernest Meyer, Franz Mehring and Clara Zetkin to establish an underground political organization called Spartakusbund (Spartacus League). The Spartacus League publicized its views in its illegal newspaper, Spartacus Letters.

**In January, 1915, Liebknecht, like the Bolsheviks in Russia, began arguing that socialists should turn this nationalist conflict into a revolutionary war.**

**He was arrested and then conscripted into the German Army. Refusing to fight, Liebknecht served on the Eastern Front burying the dead. His health deteriorated and in October, 1915, he was allowed to return to Germany.**

On 1st May, 1916, the Spartacus League decided to come out into the open and organized a demonstration against the First World War in Berlin. Several of its leaders, including Liebknecht were arrested and imprisoned.

They were not released until October, 1918, when Max von Baden granted an amnesty to all political prisoners.

In January, 1919, Liebknecht joined with Rosa Luxemburg, Leo Jogiches and Clara Zetkin in the Spartakist Rising that took place in Berlin.

Friedrich Ebert, the leader of the Social Democrat Party and Germany's new chancellor, called in the German Army and the Freikorps to bring an end to the rebellion. By 13th January the rebellion had been crushed and most of its leaders, including Liebknecht were arrested.

Karl Liebknecht was executed without trial on 15th January, 1919

**“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**



# December 2, 1964: 10,000 Strike At UC Berkeley To Defend Free Speech Rights



Jack Weinberg in police car.

Carl Bunin Peace History Nov 28 - Dec 4

Thousands who were part of the Berkeley Free Speech Movement gathered on the steps of Sproul Hall, the administration building at that University of California campus, to protest four students being disciplined for distributing political literature; Joan Baez performed in support.

The next day, police arrested 773 who began a sit-in at Sproul Hall. 10,000 more students then went on strike and shut down the school.

**The Free Speech Movement had begun in October, when three thousand students surrounded a police car for 36 hours.**

**Inside the car was a civil rights worker, Jack Weinberg, who had been arrested for distributing political literature on the UC-Berkeley campus.**

## **GOT AN OPINION?**

**Comments from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or send to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request identification published.**

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**“6-Year-Old Grant County Boy Has  
Been Accused Of First-Degree  
Sexual Assault After Playing  
‘Doctor’ With Two 5-Year-Old  
Friends”**

**Judge Issues Gag Order Prohibiting  
Boy’s Parents From Talking About  
The Case:**

**Parents Suing Twisted Freak Prosecutor  
Who Brought Charges**

**The lawsuit also alleges the charges were brought because the 5-year-old is the daughter of a high-ranking official in Grant County.**

November 23, 2011 Channel 3000 & November 17, 2011 SANDY CULLEN,  
Madison.com [Excerpts

MADISON, Wis. -- A 6-year-old Grant County boy has been accused of first-degree sexual assault after playing "doctor" with two 5-year-old friends.

Now, a federal lawsuit has been filed against the prosecutor, who attorneys said is trying to force the boy to admit guilt.

The boy's parents had planned to speak with WISC-TV on Monday to discuss the emotional toll the prosecution has taken on their son.

**But the prosecutor, Grant County District Attorney Lisa Riniker, on Monday morning asked a judge for a gag order in the case and was granted it.**

**The gag order prohibits the boy's parents from talking about the case.**

But the attorneys for the parents in the federal suit, which names Riniker as a defendant, can aren't included in the gag order, and they spoke with WISC-TV from Chicago.

Attorneys for the parents of the 6-year-old, who is being referred to as "D," said that Riniker has gone too far by bringing a felony sex charge against a first-grader for touching a 5-year-old girl inappropriately while playing doctor last fall.

"That behavior by a prosecutor is outrageous," said Christopher Cooper, an attorney for the boy's parents.

**It also alleges that the investigations were haphazard and biased in favor of the girl's father because the 5-year-old is the daughter of a high-ranking official in Grant County, and that Riniker did not act reasonably in charging a 6-year-old with first-degree sexual assault.**

**"I think his life has been ruined, and I think it's been ruined by reckless conduct by the defendants without any regard for the little boy and his future," said Chicago attorney Christopher Cooper, who is representing the boy and his parents in the lawsuit.**

**The boy, who is now 7 and has a developmental disability, has been diagnosed with stress disorders that medical professionals attribute to the defendants' actions, according to the suit.**

**He has experienced fear of going to jail, as well as anxiety, depression, sleepless nights, vomiting, crying and missed school time.**

**"She (Riniker) bypassed the parents and sent a 6-year-old boy a summons, on which is a threat that the 6-year-old will go to jail for failure to appear," Cooper said.**

Cooper and attorney David Sigale filed the federal suit last week, alleging that Riniker wants D to sign a consent decree admitting some level of guilt. "We're certainly hoping to vindicate D in the eyes of the law," Sigale said.

**"He (the boy) says he didn't do it, and the little girl says he didn't do it. The little girl says he touched the back of one of her buttocks," Cooper said.**

The attorneys are asking for about \$12 million in damages from Riniker and two co-defendants.

The attorneys said they have sought the opinion of many experts who said that children "playing doctor" is not a sex crime. "(The experts say) a 6-year-old child is unable to intellectually and emotionally associate sexual gratification with the act that D has been accused of committing," Cooper said.

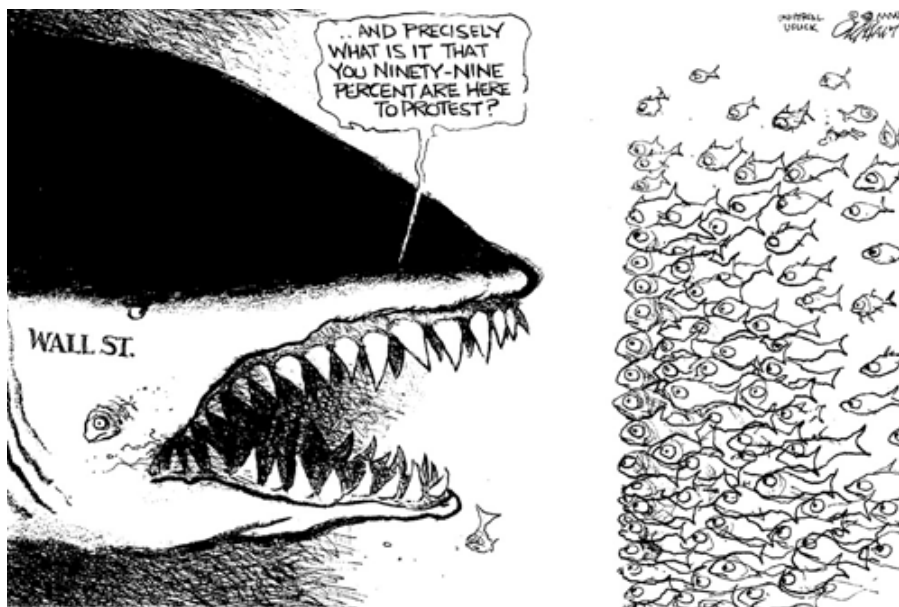
In justification for the charge, Riniker is quoted in the lawsuit saying "the Legislature could have put an age restriction in the statute ... the legislature did no such thing."

Repeated calls to Riniker and an attorney for she and two co-defendants have gone unanswered since Friday, WISC-TV reported.

**Riniker went to Judge Bill Dyke, who is handling the case from Iowa County, and he issued a gag order for the parents Monday morning. WISC-TV has not received a copy of the order nor a reason for its issue.**

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## CLASS WAR REPORTS



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