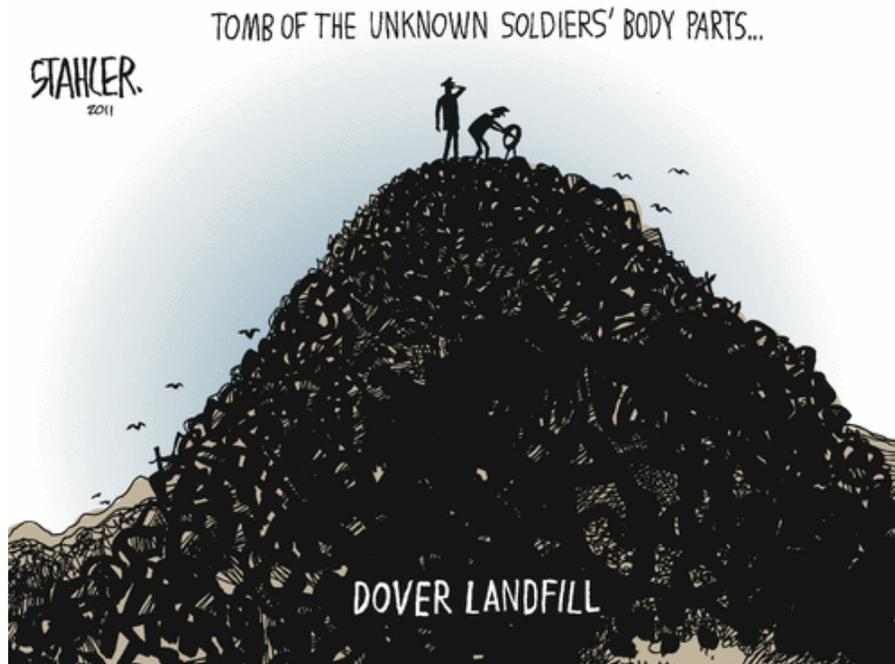


Military Resistance 9L9



What A Surprise!

“After The Troops Have Left, The U.S. Presence In Iraq — Which Peaked At 170,000 — Will Number Between 15,000 And 16,000”

“The State Department Will Hire More Than 5,000 Private Security Contractors For Armed Details”

“The State Department Will Command Four Major Diplomatic Centers And

Seven Other Facilities, A Total Of 11 Sites Around The Country”

DECEMBER 10, 2011 By NATHAN HODGE, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

U.S. troops are on track to leave Iraq before the end of December, but the U.S. involvement there is anything but over — meaning local resistance to Americans, and the security challenges that come with it, will continue.

In place of the military, the State Department will assume a new role of unprecedented scale, overseeing a massive diplomatic mission through a network of fortified, self-sufficient installations.

After the troops have left, the U.S. presence in Iraq — which peaked at 170,000 — will number between 15,000 and 16,000, including federal employees and private contractors.

Federal officials are busily signing hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts for on-site health care, food, protection and other needs, so that American personnel can steer clear of a perilous security situation on Iraq's city streets.

The State Department will hire more than 5,000 private security contractors for armed details and has contracted with a private service to ferry U.S. personnel in helicopters and planes.

The State Department will command four major diplomatic centers and seven other facilities, a total of 11 sites around the country.

The tab will be around \$3.8 billion for the first year, far above the operating cost of any other U.S. diplomatic mission—but far lower than the more than \$40 billion in U.S. spending budgeted for fiscal 2011 in Iraq.

The U.S. posture is likely to be controversial within Iraq. The militant cleric Moqtada al-Sadr has called a truce through year-end to allow U.S. troops to leave, but has called on followers to resist the "occupiers" that remain.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

3 Bliss Soldiers Killed In Afghanistan

Dec 8, 2011 Army Times

Three Texas-based soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan, the Defense Department announced Thursday.

Sgt. 1st Class Clark A. Corley Jr., 35, of Oxnard, Calif.; Spc. Ryan M. Lumley, 21, of Lakeland, Fla.; and Spc. Thomas J. Mayberry, 21, of Springville, Calif., died Saturday in Wardak province, Afghanistan.

They were killed when enemy forces attacked their unit with an improvised explosive device.

They were assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Michigan Staff Sgt. Killed In Helmand



Staff Sgt. Vincent Bell, 28, of Wayne, Mich., was killed Nov. 30, in the blast of an improvised explosive device while on foot patrol in Helmand province of Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Family Photo)

Sapper Elijah Bond Dies In UK From Wounds Sustained In Afghanistan

9 Dec 11 Ministry of Defence

It is with great sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm the death of Sapper Elijah Bond of 35 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers at the Queen Elizabeth NHS Hospital, Birmingham.

Serving with the Task Force Helmand Engineer Group, he was a member of a team that was conducting an engineer reconnaissance task in the Deh Adham Khan region of Nahr-e Saraj (North) in Central Helmand, on 6th December 2011, when he was injured in a blast from an improvised explosive device.

His colleagues provided immediate first aid before he was evacuated by helicopter to the military hospital in Camp Bastion, where he received further medical attention. He was then flown under the care of a Critical Care Air Support Team to the Queen Elizabeth NHS Hospital in Birmingham where, on 8th December, he died of his wounds.

Former Hermitage Springs Grad Killed in Afghanistan



Sgt. Dennis Ray Murray

November 29, 2011 Written by Jessie Williams, Macon County Chronicle

Thirty-eight-year-old U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Dennis Ray Murray, a 1991 graduate of Hermitage Springs High School, was killed in Afghanistan last Monday, November 21.

Murray was deployed to Afghanistan last April and, according to his mother Wanda Maxy, proudly served his country for 21 years.

“He genuinely loved the Army,” she said. “My brother was killed in Vietnam, and when Dennis signed up to join the Army when he was 18 years old, I was worried for him.”

Maxy, who currently lives in the Union Hill community of Clay County, was told that her son was killed after stepping on an improvised explosive device.

For Maxy, the holiday season has been especially tough in the wake of her son’s death, but she clings to the many happy memories she has of him over the years.

“He was always good to people and he was a very loving, caring father to his children,” she commented. “He was a good son, and I am very proud of him. He will be missed by all of us... I miss him all of the time.”

Sgt. Murray leaves behind two children, 14 and 11 years old, in Lafayette. His remains will be carried to North Carolina, but a local memorial service will be planned.

Marine From Salem Who Died Was Just Weeks From Returning Home

Nov. 30, 2011 Capi Lynn, Statesman Journal

The family of Cpl. Adam J. Buyes is making arrangements to bring their son and brother home.

Buyes, who grew up in Salem, was killed Saturday while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

His remains were expected to arrive at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware as early as today, and his parents and two of his brothers, already back East visiting family for Thanksgiving when they received the heartbreaking news, planned to be there.

"Right now I'm focused on getting my boy back in the states and getting him taken care of, and reuniting my family," his father, Mike Buyes, said by telephone.

Adam's other siblings, a sister and a brother, did not make the Thanksgiving trip and were in Salem when the family learned of his death.

The family has been told that the 21-year-old, a field radio operator for the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, was killed while on foot patrol.

Buyes had been in Afghanistan — his first deployment to the Middle East — since May and was scheduled to return to Okinawa, Japan, where his unit is based, by early next week.

He already had purchased an airline ticket to fly home Dec. 22, according to his father.

The last time Mike Buyes spoke to his son was on Thanksgiving.

"He really wanted to be with us," his dad said, his voice cracking.

Adam Buyes attended Washington Elementary School, Waldo Middle School and McKay High School. He graduated from McKay in 2008, and joined the Marines on Jan. 12, 2009. His brother, Joshua, also is in the Marines, with Alpha Company, 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion. Joshua returned from a tour in Afghanistan three weeks ago.

A press release from Marine Corps Base Camp Butler in Okinawa, where Adam was stationed the past two years, listed his service awards to include the Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Korean Defense Service Medal.

"Cpl. Adam Buyes was a truly dedicated professional who cared for his Marines as if they were brothers from the beginning," said battalion 1st Sgt. Daniel J. Wilson. "He was often emulated and adored by many of the Marines he came in contact with. Cpl. Buyes was just one of those Marines that made being in Okinawa, Japan, or deployed to Afghanistan better and more enjoyable for everyone."

Buyes' unit has planned a memorial service for Sunday at Camp Leatherneck in Afghanistan.

His family is in the process of making arrangements for a local service.

"We just want to make sure he is honored," his dad said.

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

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

Get The Message?



An Afghan protestor carries a banner during a demonstration in Kabul, Afghanistan, Dec. 10, 2011. The demonstration was organized by the Social Association of Afghan Justice Seekers, with dozens of Afghans who have lost family members, marching in Kabul to mark the 10th of December "International Human Rights Day", asking for justice for the deaths of their loved ones. (AP Photo/Ahmad Jamshid)

**THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO COMPREHENSIBLE
REASON TO BE IN THIS EXTREMELY HIGH RISK
LOCATION AT THIS TIME, EXCEPT THAT THE
PACK OF TRAITORS THAT RUN THE
GOVERNMENT IN D.C. WANT YOU THERE COVER
THEIR ASS:**

That is not a good enough reason.



Dec. 1, 2011: A U.S. soldier with Apache Company of Task Force 3-66 Armor, out of Grafenwoehr, Germany, stands guard at a police checkpoint at Gulruddin pass in Sar Hawza district of Paktika province, south of Kabul, Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Heidi Vogt)

**“Blockade Of The Vital US Supply
Line Into Afghanistan Entered A Third
Week Saturday”**

**“Longest Closure Of The 10-Year War
With No Imminent Sign Of The Border
Reopening”**

10 December 2011 AFP

PESHAWAR, Pakistan: Pakistan's blockade of the vital US supply line into Afghanistan entered a third week Saturday, its longest closure of the 10-year war with no imminent sign of the border reopening.

Pakistan's fragile alliance with the United States crashed to new lows two weeks ago on November 26 when NATO air strikes killed 24 Pakistani soldiers in what the Pakistan military called a deliberate attack.

Officials in the northwest, where the main Torkham crossing into Afghanistan is situated, told AFP there were no plans to reopen.

"There is strong public resentment. People are angry about this incident and we cannot take a decision in haste," one senior security official told AFP.

Two nights ago, gunmen destroyed at least 34 trucks in a gun and rocket attack on a trucking terminal in the southwestern province of Baluchistan.

Around 44 oil tankers and goods trucks were parked at the temporary terminal, one of three set up in and around Quetta for stranded vehicles.

U.S. Drones And Personnel Forced Out Of Base In Pakistan

December 10, 2011 Rediff.com

The United States has reportedly shifted five unmanned spy planes from an airbase in southwest Pakistan to Afghanistan after Islamabad told Washington to vacate the facility following a cross-border U.S. air strike that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

The US has removed all its equipment from Shamsi airbase in Balochistan province, Geo News channel quoted its sources as saying.

Officials of the Federal Investigation Agency have been deployed at the airbase to oversee immigration procedures for departing American personnel, the channel reported on Friday.

The American personnel had dismantled their residential barracks.

A Pakistani military official in Balochistan recently said the US officials in Shamsi had burnt some equipment.

He claimed this was a routine practice as the gear was no longer required.

After the U.S. attack on two military border posts on November 26, Pakistan ordered the US to vacate Shamsi airbase by December 11.

Numerous reports by the Pakistani and American media have said that Shamsi was used by CIA-operated drones that carried out attacks on militants in Pakistan's restive tribal belt.

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani had said this week that the US had been asked to vacate the airbase by December 11.

[Afghan Resistance Statement]
**“It Seems As If The International
Community Has Grown Weary Of The
Afghan Mission And Is Passing Its
Time With Only Ceremonial And
Theatrical Movements And Words”**
**“You Should First And Foremost
Remove Your Troops From Our Soil”**



06 December 2011 Islamic Emirat Of Afghanistan; Shahamat-english.com

Statement Of Islamic Emirate Regarding The Futile Bonn Conference

Similar to the experiment of the past decade, the western occupying forces and its puppet regime in Kabul busied the media outlets for the past couple of months on the Bonn conference and its agenda.

Efforts were made to give false hope to the Afghan and western people and to turn away their attention for a while.

The Bonn conference, which was touted until yesterday to be the sole opportunity for reaching a solution to the problems of Afghanistan by the international and internal media, turned out to be nothing more than a repetition of a few hollow words and assurances by its participants and speakers to try and blow life into the carcass of the stooge Kabul regime after the foreign troops supposedly leave Afghanistan at the end of 2014.

This conference was concluded on such a note that a few empty promises were made while none of the fundamental matters were debated and neither were any questions raised about what the real demands of the oppressed Afghan nation are?

Islam and Islamic system were not mentioned anywhere in the long body text of the resolutions of the conference; no specific and known obligations were made; all issues have been bypassed and guidelines for the fundamental solution and obligations on international community have not been made; peace process has been referred to as reintegration; it has been decorated with many words, few of which are meaningful; a lot of focus has been given to guiding the Kabul administration and similarly shifting more responsibility to it.

It seems as if the international community has grown weary of the Afghan mission and is passing its time with only ceremonial and theatrical movements and words.

It can be seen from afar that the resolutions of the conference were pre-written and were merely announced under the heading of Bonn conference.

Our perceptive nation has recognized all the tricks and fraudulences of the occupying countries in the past ten years and can never be deceived by such empty words which have been heard by every ear and practically observed for a decade.

The Afghans do not hold any goodwill coming from the resolutions of the second Bonn which was convened and concluded under the supervision of America, NATO and other prejudiced countries.

Rather promises were also made in this Bonn to pave roads for the strengthening of the grip of the black mafia over Afghanistan's freedom and sovereignty and which has plundered the resources of this country and has laid down projects and traps to keep looting for another decade.

Besides this, America also tried to give legality to its self-interested and colonial policies so it can use the soil of Afghanistan against the neighbors and the region and God Forbid, to entrap Afghans in historical enmity and hostilities with its neighbors and the region.

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan wants to call on all the occupying countries that they should pay attention to the fundamental problems and demands of our and their own countries rather than wasting time on such vain and futile conferences.

You should first and foremost remove your troops from our soil, forgo building permanent bases here and leave our aching nation to build an independent Islamic government in accordance with its aspirations and they should know that such an Islamic government will benefit the Afghans and the entire world.

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

Resistance Action



The wreckage of a police vehicle hit by a bomb blast in Alishing district of Laghman province December 10, 2011. At least one policeman was killed and three others wounded in the blast, a police officer said. REUTERS/Parwiz

December 9 by Associated Press & Dec 10 (Reuters)

A bomber blew himself up Friday at a mosque in northeast Afghanistan. The bombing occurred about 2 p.m. in the yard of a mosque in Ghazi Abad district of Kunar province after Friday prayers. The district police chief, his body guard, a civilian and an employee of the Afghan intelligence service died in the attack. Five others were wounded in the blast.

KUNDUZ - A bicycle bomb exploded in the centre of Kunduz city on Saturday, former jihadi commander and peace council member Sher Mohammad Arab, and injuring 16 civilians, said Sayed Sarwar Hosseini, spokesman for the Kunduz police chief.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

Resistance Action

Dec 9 (Reuters) & Dec 10 (Reuters)

ISKANDARIYA - Three rockets landed in or near the U.S. military's Kalsu base near Iskandariya, 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad, wounding three people living near the base, local police said.

KIRKUK - A sticky bomb attached to a car carrying an off-duty Iraqi army officer wounded him in southeastern Kirkuk, police said.

BAQUBA - Insurgents killed a member of a government-backed Sunni militia in front of his house and wounded one of his guards on Thursday in the northern outskirts of Baquba, 65 km (40 miles) northeast of Baghdad, police said.

BAGHDAD - Gunmen in a car attacked a joint government-backed militia and Iraqi police checkpoint, killing one militia member and wounding one policeman in Saydiya district of southern Baghdad, police said.

MOSUL - A roadside bomb wounded two policemen when it went off near their patrol in western Mosul, a local police source said.



MILITARY NEWS

“After Being Wounded By A Roadside Bomb In Iraq In 2004, Army Counterintelligence Specialist Mike Helms Endured A Bureaucratic Nightmare Trying To Get Treatment”

“The Army Retaliated Against Helms For Blowing The Whistle On The Poor Treatment He Received”

“He Exposed To The Media And Congress An Embarrassing Pattern Of Incompetence, Neglect And Indifference In The Way The Army Handled His Care, The IG Said”

“‘The IG Investigation Showed I Did Nothing Wrong,’ Helms Said”

Dec 8, 2011 By Stephen Losey - Staff writer, Army Times [Excerpts]

After being wounded by a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2004, Army counterintelligence specialist Mike Helms endured a bureaucratic nightmare trying to get treatment for traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and other injuries.

He wrote or called numerous congressmen, Defense Department executives, newspapers (including Federal Times, a sister publication to Army Times`), even then-President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney.

According to an inspector general’s report obtained by Federal Times, the Army then retaliated against Helms for blowing the whistle on the poor treatment he received.

In 2008, his superiors suspended his access to classified information, recommended his security clearance be revoked, and suspended him indefinitely without pay.

In November 2009, the Army fired him.

Army officials “reprised against Mr. Helms when recommending that his security clearance be revoked. We concluded that the agency did not establish by clear and convincing evidence a firm belief that it would have taken the same action absent Mr. Helms’ disclosures,” wrote Donald Horstman, deputy IG for administrative investigations, in the introduction of the IG report.

The report was completed in October 2010, but the IG’s office has refused to release it.

Helms provided Federal Times with a copy.

The Army claims it removed Helms' clearance because he breached security by setting up an illegal computer server and put pornography on government computers, according to the IG report.

The IG report found no evidence that Helms was connected to the pornography and that the Army's investigation into his alleged wrongdoing was deeply flawed.

Helms' former superiors at the 902nd Military Intelligence Group declined to comment when reached by phone, and they referred Federal Times to the public affairs office at the Army Intelligence and Security Command, or INSCOM.

The public affairs office did not respond to multiple inquiries.

Helms' battle took a devastating psychological, financial and professional toll on him.

Since speaking out against the shoddy medical treatment he received, Helms has lost his job, racked up at least \$200,000 in legal fees, had his security clearance put in limbo, and has been unable to find a new job.

"The IG investigation showed I did nothing wrong," Helms said.

"But I'm the one sitting here without anything."

His case shows that even while whistle-blowers have new protections and resources, they can sometimes pay a heavy price that can take many years to overcome. The Project on Government Oversight, a whistle-blower advocacy organization, said the Army's actions against Helms show that whistle-blower protections need to be strengthened.

"I think (Helms) exposed a pretty glaring gap between policy and reality in terms of how the DoD treats war-injured civilian employees," said Nick Schwellenbach, POGO's director of investigations.

"This is an egregious case of retaliation, especially given what Mike Helms went through, and what he exposed."

"The IG Report Said That Helms' Complaints Qualified As Protected Whistle-Blower Disclosures"

The Army deployed Helms in December 2003 to Iraq's dangerous Sunni Triangle area , where he helped military units collect intelligence on insurgent operations.

"We were there to fill the HUMINT (human intelligence) void, to provide the commanders actionable intelligence on where the bad guys might be, and identify if there was any foreign terrorism threat ... as fast as possible," Helms said in a 2008 interview. "When needed, I'd go out and support teams on security. I'd be on the main gun (of a Humvee) nine times out of 10, because we didn't have enough bodies."

Helms, who had served more than five years in the Army before becoming a civilian employee in 2002, said there was a severe lack of trained military personnel at the time.

He said he had no choice but to help man a gun and assist during convoys.

“When the commander said ‘Go,’ I said, ‘Where to?’ ” Helms said. “I worked for him. There was no, ‘let’s be heroes’ concept. At no time did we go out to play war. It was serious business for us.”

But while helping a convoy transport newly deployed soldiers to their stations in June 2004, Helms’ Humvee struck a roadside bomb. The explosion riddled his left arm and right hand with shrapnel, blew out his eardrums, broke his tailbone, and left him with no feeling below his waist for a week.

The IG report said that as a federal counterintelligence specialist, Helms was entitled to free care under the DoD Military Health Services System for his battlefield injuries.

DoD rules say “the scope of care provided [to such employees] shall be equivalent to that received by active duty military personnel.”

But that’s not what happened.

As an Army civilian, Helms received a far inferior level of care and treatment after his injuries than his military counterparts, the IG said.

And he exposed to the media and Congress an embarrassing pattern of incompetence, neglect and indifference in the way the Army handled his care, the IG said.

Two weeks after the bombing, Helms was medically evacuated to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington. But Walter Reed at first refused to treat Helms because of a coding error that incorrectly identified him as a contract worker. He said the error was never straightened out.

Helms only got into Walter Reed after the also-injured military driver of his bombed Humvee and the driver’s wife fought for him.

After a month, Helms said the driver was discharged and Helms had to leave Walter Reed. He returned to his home station at Fort Knox, Ky., but said the Ireland Army Community Hospital there likewise refused to see him because he was a civilian.

Helms filed a workers’ compensation claim but said the Labor Department provided him no help in navigating the complicated system.

Several of his treatments at local hospitals were denied, and he had to argue his way out of several bills from his treatments at Ireland Army Community Hospital and other civilian medical facilities — some as high as \$15,000. Those bills would have been taken care of by Tricare if he had been a service member.

Helms wrote to numerous lawmakers and Pentagon officials seeking help. The Senate Armed Services Committee in 2005 asked INSCOM, the Army Deputy Chief of Staff and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for a “short-fused” briefing on Helms’ case, the IG said. And the House Armed Services Committee in 2007 spoke to Helms and other combat-injured civilians behind closed doors, and in 2008 released a report detailing serious shortcomings in the government’s treatment of its wounded civilian employees.

The IG said Helms’ disclosures “brought increased and arguably unwelcome scrutiny” to his unit, the 902nd Military Intelligence Group.” The report quoted one unnamed official who said Helms’ press interviews generated frustration within the department.

“It was very trying, because now you’re getting higher headquarters coming down to you saying, ‘Why aren’t you taking care of this guy?’ ” the unnamed official said.

Another unnamed official said that “there were times when the name of Mike Helms invoked a head-back, rolling of the eyes at just the mention of his name.”

The IG report said that Helms’ complaints qualified as protected whistle-blower disclosures and that the Army’s treatment of him during and after an investigation into an allegedly improper computer server amounted to reprisal.

Helms’ persistence brought Washington’s attention to the plight of war-wounded civilians, and gradually, the system changed.

“They Launched The Investigation As A Means To Come After Me. ‘We Can Get Rid Of Him.’”

In April 2008, the Army launched an investigation into Helms.

Specifically, investigators probed whether Helms violated Army rules by creating a “rogue server” at his Fort Knox field office that was improperly connected to a classified computer network and that used malicious, unlicensed software.

Helms created the server, called Athena, three years before as a way to store operational files for his field office. Four to five employees at the office, including Helms, had access to the server. Helms’ superiors were aware of the Athena server, the IG report said. Helms said he briefed incoming commanders over the next few years about how it worked.

But in April 2008 — three years after Athena’s launch, and several months after Helms’ interviews with The Washington Post and the House Armed Services Committee — the server was shut down and an investigation was launched. Helms’ superiors were aware of the server because Helms said he briefed them about it and one supervisor even asked Helms to test the system out, the IG report said. In investigating charges that Helms’ Athena server was outside of protocol, Army officials never interviewed Helms’ commanders or superiors who Helms said were aware of the server.

Helms believes the length of time between Athena’s creation and when his superiors began to investigate the server — three years — shows the server was never a real

problem. “How was (Athena) never an issue for three years?” Helms said. “They launched the investigation as a means to come after me. It was a way for them to say, ‘We can get rid of him.’ ”

The IG report said an important question to answer for the Army when deciding whether to revoke Helms’ clearance was whether classified material was compromised because of the Athena server, but that was never investigated.

Investigators also found pornographic computer files on Athena’s hard drives and broadened the inquiry to determine whether Helms put it there. They concluded he did.

An Army official said in a November 2008 memo that Helms admitted putting pornography on government computers and the official recommended that Helms’ clearance be revoked, the IG report said.

But Helms not only never admitted to the pornography charge, he denied it, the IG report said — which meant the recommendation to revoke his security clearance was based in part on a materially misstated fact.

Other aspects of the Army’s investigation into the pornography allegations against Helms were also flawed and incomplete, the IG found.

Investigating officers failed to interview any field office personnel about the pornography charge or conduct a forensic investigation, the IG report said. A subsequent Defense Criminal Investigative Service analysis of the Athena hard drives could not disprove Helms’ claims that he was not responsible for the porn. DCIS found that anybody with access to the Athena server could have placed the pornography on it, yet the Army investigators only focused on Helms. DCIS could only confirm that Helms tried to delete two pornographic files.

Helms Fights Back

Helms’ top secret security clearance was never officially revoked, but because his access to classified information is still suspended, it might as well be. He said he has had a few job offers from the private sector, but they all fell through because the status of his security clearance is uncertain.

Helms went to the Merit Systems Protection Board to contest his firing in December 2009, and in November 2010 he sued in the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. He sought three years of lost back pay, plus nearly \$900,000 in compensatory and punitive damages for his suffering and lost job opportunities. But the case dragged on, and he racked up about \$200,000 in legal bills.

“They slow-rolled me for years,” said Helms, who is 35 and lives in Radcliff, Ky.

To cover his costs, he borrowed \$60,000 from his parents, and took out a \$10,000 loan from his Thrift Savings Plan — the most the plan would allow. On Aug. 8, the cash-strapped Helms and the Army settled the MSPB case for two years’ back pay, or roughly \$180,000.

Helms' firing was revoked and replaced with a four-day suspension for failing to follow instructions. Helms is now on paid administrative leave while the Army adjudicates his security clearance once and for all. The adjudication process is still underway.

As part of the settlement, Helms agreed to resign "for personal reasons" and never again apply for another job at INSCOM. His resignation will take effect six months after his clearance is approved or, if his clearance is revoked, six months after he exhausts his final appeal.

Helms wanted the Army to guarantee medical treatment after he leaves as part of his settlement, but he said that was quickly taken off the table. "I believe the Army should be responsible for that, because they were the ones who deployed me," Helms said. "I don't think that's too much to ask for."

Four months after the settlement, Helms hasn't yet gotten any back pay, and his security clearance isn't adjudicated yet. He's also still struggling to get the medical treatment he needs for his TBI and PTSD.

"I'm still having to fight the damn Army," Helms said.

NOT ANOTHER DAY NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR NOT ANOTHER LIFE



The remains of Army Sgt. Ryan D. Sharp at Dover Air Force Base, Del., Dec. 9, 2011. Sharp, 28, of Idaho Falls, Idaho, died Dec. 3, 2011 at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany, of wounds sustained Nov. 21, 2011 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. (AP Photo/Steve Ruark)...

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

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

The past year – every single day of it – has had its consequences. In the obscure depths of society, an imperceptible molecular process has been occurring irreversibly, like the flow of time, a process of accumulating discontent, bitterness, and revolutionary energy.

-- Leon Trotsky, “Up To The Ninth Of January”

“In America, Capitalism Trumps Democracy”

12/ 5/11 David A. Love, Executive Editor, BlackCommentator.com;
TheHuffingtonPost.com [Excerpt]

Cities throughout the nation appear to be acting in concert with an anti-Occupy Wall Street strategy. It is no coincidence that simultaneously, police forces throughout the country are violently disbanding Occupy tent cities.

The Department of Homeland Security held conference calls with numerous city governments on how to crack down on the protesters. The writing is on the wall.

The police response to the Occupy Movement flies in the face of the reputed tenets of American constitutional democracy, and contravenes the precepts of international human rights law.

But hey, this is America. And in America, capitalism trumps democracy. And we can't allow capitalism to become a dirty word, now can we?

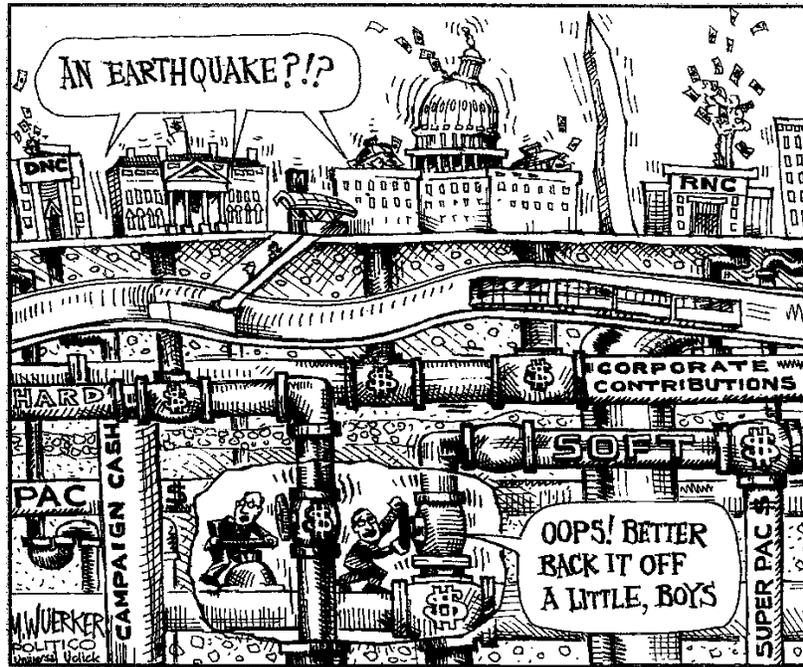
Troops Invited:

Comments, arguments, articles, and letters from service men and women, and veterans, are especially welcome. Write to Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657 or email contact@militaryproject.org: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe.

Military Resistance Available In PDF Format

If you prefer PDF to Word format, email: contact@militaryproject.org

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**“The United States Is Fighting
Terrorism — One Snow Cone At A
Time”**

**Montcalm County Gets Homeland
Security Snow Cone Machine**



Montcalm County is now in possession of a \$900 Arctic Blast Sno-Cone machine, thanks to a grant from the Michigan Homeland Security Program. — Daily News/Elisabeth Waldon

December 03 2011 by Elisabeth Waldon, Greenville Daily News

STANTON — The United States is fighting terrorism — one snow cone at a time.

Montcalm County recently received a \$900 Arctic Blast Sno-Cone machine.

The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC) is a federal- and state-designated agency responsible for managing and administrating the homeland security program in Montcalm County and 12 other counties.

The WMSRDC recently purchased and transferred homeland security equipment to these counties — including 13 snow cone machines at a total cost of \$11,700.

The machines were funded by a grant from the Michigan Homeland Security Program. The request for a snow cone machine came from another county, but all 13 counties received them.

The purchase raised some questions at a recent Montcalm County Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioners wondered about the machine and questioned its purpose.

The Michigan Homeland Security Grant Program's Allowable Cost Justification document, dated May 9, 2011, says the snow cone machines can make ice to prevent heat-related illnesses during emergencies, treat injuries and provide snow cones as an outreach at promotional events.

WMSRDC Executive Director Sandeep Dey said one county requested a popcorn machine, but that request was denied. He said the snow cone machine request would not have been granted by itself, but was approved because it came with other homeland security equipment.

"It is used to attract people so they can be educated and prepared for homeland security," Dey said from his office in Muskegon. "More importantly, they (homeland security officials) felt in a medical emergency the machine was capable of making ice packs which could be used for medical purposes."

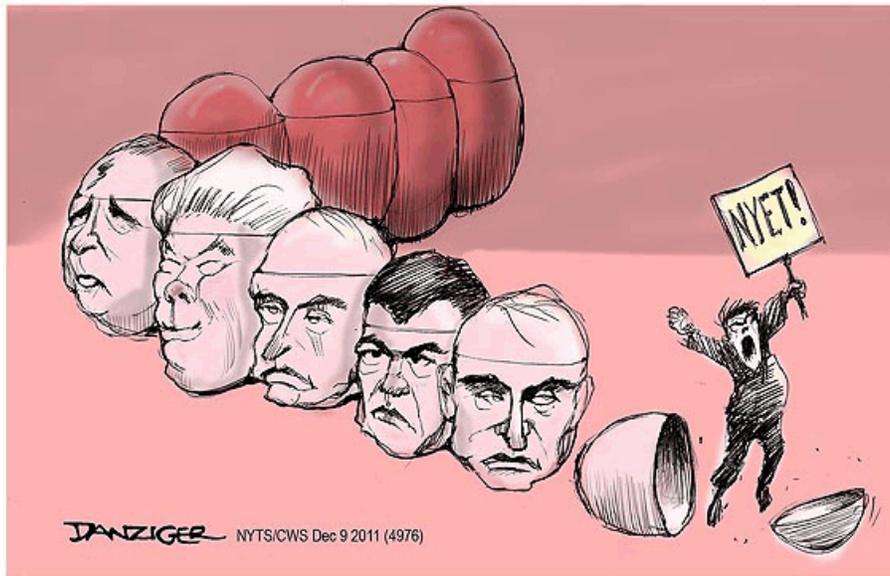
The snow cone machine is currently being stored in the Montcalm County Emergency Services (MCES) building in Stanton. MCES Director David Feldpausch said the machine could be useful at the scene of a large fire or during very hot weather.

"I don't like the term snow cone machine, because it sounds horrible," Feldpausch said. "When you look at it as an ice shaving machine and its purpose, it makes a little more sense. I assume it will get used in Montcalm County a lot more in the summertime by the Fire Corps."

CLASS WAR REPORTS

“Tens Of Thousands Of Russians Gathered Peacefully In Central Moscow On Saturday To Shout ‘Putin Is A Thief’ And ‘Russia Without Putin’”

Matryoshka



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10 December 2011 Ellen Barry, The New York Times News Service [Excerpts]

Moscow — Tens of thousands of Russians gathered peacefully in central Moscow on Saturday to shout “Putin is a thief” and “Russia without Putin,” forcing the Kremlin to confront a level of public discontent that has not been seen here since Vladimir V. Putin first became president 12 years ago.

The crowd overflowed the square where it was held, forcing stragglers to climb trees or watch from the opposite riverbank, and organizers repeatedly cleared a footbridge out of fear it would collapse.

It was the largest anti-Kremlin protest since the early 1990s.

The police estimated the crowd at 25,000 while organizers put the figure much higher, at 40,000 or more.

The rally was a significant moment in Russia’s political life, suggesting that the authorities have lost the power to control the national agenda.

The event was too large to be edited out of the evening news, which does not report criticism of Mr. Putin, and was accompanied by smaller demonstrations dozens of other cities, including St. Petersburg.

The government calculated that it had no choice but to allow the events unfold.

There was a large police presence, including rows of troop carriers, dump trucks and bulldozers, but remarkably when the crowd dispersed four hours later, no detentions had been reported.

On Saturday many in the crowd said the event was a watershed moment.

Calls for protest have been mounting since parliamentary elections last Sunday, which domestic and international observers said were tainted by ballot-stuffing and fraud on behalf of Mr. Putin's party, United Russia.

But an equally crucial event, many said, was Mr. Putin's announcement in September that he would run for the presidency in March.

Yevgeniya Albats, editor of the New Times magazine, said that the gathering was the most striking display of grassroots democracy that she had seen in Russia, and that the involvement of young people was a game-changer.

When Mr. Putin revealed his decision to return to the presidency, a full six months before presidential elections, she said, "this really, really humiliated the country."

The authorities had been trying to discourage attendance, saying that widespread protests could culminate in a disaster on the scale of the Soviet collapse, which occurred 20 years ago this month.

Officials have portrayed the demonstrators as revolutionaries dedicated to a violent, Libya-style overthrow.

The demonstration's organizers have put forward several demands: the immediate release of prisoners arrested last week in connection with the protests; the scheduling of new parliamentary elections; the ouster of Vladimir Y. Churov, who runs the Central Election Commission; investigation of election violations; the registration of so-called nonsystem opposition parties, ones that have been unable to win seats in Parliament or put forward presidential candidates.

Speakers said they would give the Kremlin two weeks to satisfy the demands, and hold another large protest on Dec. 24.

It seems unlikely that the authorities will accede to the protesters' demands. A deputy chairman of Russia's Central Election Commission told the Interfax news service that the final report on the election results was signed Friday, and that he saw no reason to annul them. "The elections are declared valid, and there is no reason for any other assessment," the official, Stanisav Vavilov, said. "There is no reason to revise the results of the elections."



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