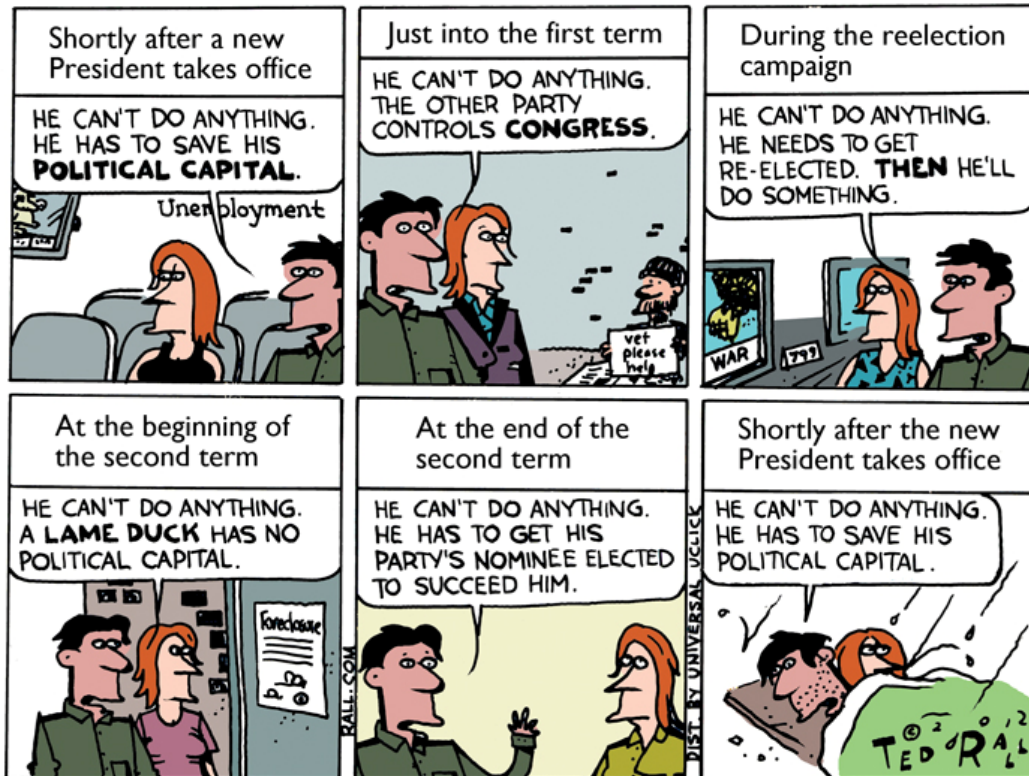


Military Resistance 10F8



AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Richardson Pfc. Dies Of IED Wounds In Germany

Jun 8, 2012 Army Times

An Alaska-based soldier has died in Germany, the Defense Department announced Thursday.

Pfc. Vincent J. Ellis, 22, of Tokyo, Japan, died Monday in Landstuhl, Germany, from wounds suffered June 1 on Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan, when his unit was attacked with improvised explosive devices and small-arms fire.

He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Airborne Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Area Soldier Dies In Afghanistan Combat



Cale C. Miller. Courtesy KCTV5 News

June 4 By LYNN HORSLEY and STEVE EVERLY, The Kansas City Star

A Johnson County man has died of wounds suffered during combat in Afghanistan.

Cale C. Miller, 23, an Olathe native, died Thursday in Maiwand, Afghanistan, when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

He served in the 2nd Infantry Division.

"Lt. Gov. Colyer and I are profoundly saddened to hear of the loss of Private Miller," said Gov. Sam Brownback in a statement. "He is a hero and will forever remain in the hearts of the Kansans and the Americans for whom he gave his life serving."

Brownback will issue an order to lower flags in Kansas to half-staff on the day of Private Miller's funeral. Those arrangements are pending.

This is the second Johnson County casualty in Afghanistan in the past week.

Sgt. Mike Knapp, 28, of Overland Park, was killed May 18.

Miller was a 2007 graduate of Olathe Northwest High School and attended classes at the University of Kansas and Baker University.

Miller's brother-in-law, Frank Barden, said Miller spent his whole life in Olathe. His parents just recently moved to Overland Park.

Speaking to reporters in front of Olathe Northwest High School on Saturday night, Barden said the family is coping with great sadness but is extremely proud of Miller's service and sacrifice for his country.

Barden, who is married to Miller's older sister Courtney, said Miller loved music, Ford Mustangs and pug dogs, and excelled at everything he did.

He played football at Olathe Northwest and played trumpet in the band.

But he didn't know what to do after high school and explored auto mechanics, sound mixing and other passions.

Then he surprised his family by telling them he planned to join the Army.

"He wanted to do something bigger than himself," Barden said. "He wanted to feel good about what he was doing."

Miller joined the Army about a year ago and loved it, especially the camaraderie with his squadmates. He deployed to Afghanistan about six weeks ago and was a driver of a Stryker armored combat vehicle.

Barden said the family understood that he was trapped under the burning vehicle and told his squadmates to save themselves rather than worry about rescuing him.

Barden said the loss is especially poignant right before Memorial Day.

"The world lost a great spirit Thursday," Barden said, adding that the family asks for continued prayers for Miller's squadmates who are still serving.

In a statement, his family said Miller's "final act on this earth was selfless, and his sacrifice prevented the deaths of several of his battle buddies."

His mother, Deborah Collins, said: "Although we are devastated by our loss, we find comfort knowing that Cale died doing exactly what he wanted to do. His sacrifice shall not be in vain, and we rest assured knowing that some good will come from his untimely death. We love him to the moon and back."

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

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP
THE WAR**

Jailhouse Rocked: Many Escape From Afghan Prison After Taliban Attack



8 June 2012 BBC

At least 14 prisoners, including insurgents, are still at large after militants attacked a jail in the Afghan province of Sar-e Pol, officials say.

Three inmates were killed and 28 injured in gun battles between prison guards and Taliban fighters late on Thursday night.

About 30 prisoners fled but officials say they have recaptured 16.

The Taliban have said they carried out last night's attack in Sar-e Pol and claim 170 prisoners escaped.

A powerful blast reportedly blew a hole in a prison wall shortly after darkness fell. The militants then launched a co-ordinated attack from three directions, local media report.

The governor of Sar-e Pol province told the BBC's Bilal Sarwary that those missing include criminals, Taliban fighters and commanders.

Our correspondent says drugs and the use of mobile phones among inmates are all problems for prisons in Sar-e Pol.

A member of the provincial council, Abdul Ghani, told the Associated Press news agency that he fears the jail-break will mean deteriorating security in the province.

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

MILITARY NEWS

Judge Refuses To Dismiss Any Manning Charges

Jun 8, 2012 By David Dishneau - The Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Md. — A military judge refused Friday to dismiss any of the 22 counts against an Army private charged in the biggest leak of government secrets in U.S. history.

Col. Denise Lind also indicated she will postpone Pfc. Bradley Manning's trial, currently set to start Sept. 21, to November or January because of procedural delays.

Manning is charged with knowingly aiding al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula by causing the online publication of hundreds of thousands of classified State Department diplomatic cables and Iraq and Afghanistan war logs, along with some battlefield video clips.

Authorities say the 24-year-old Crescent, Okla., native downloaded the files from a Defense Department network and sent them to the secret-sharing website WikiLeaks while working as an intelligence analyst in Baghdad in 2009 and 2010.

On Friday, the third day of a pretrial hearing, Lind rejected a defense argument that the government used unconstitutionally vague language in charging Manning with eight counts of unauthorized possession and disclosure of classified information. The defense targeted the phrases, "relating to the national defense" and "to the injury of the United States or to the advantage of any foreign nation."

Lind disagreed with a defense argument that the phrases are too broad to provide fair warning of what conduct is prohibited.

The judge also refused to dismiss two counts alleging Manning exceeded his authority to access computers linked to SIPRNet, the Defense Department intranet system.

The government alleges Manning used the computers to obtain information that was then transmitted to a person not entitled to receive them.

The defense argued that Manning's job description clearly entitled him to use the computers, and that his purpose in using them was irrelevant to the charge.

Lind agreed with the defense's interpretation of the law but said she hadn't seen enough evidence to decide whether to dismiss the charge.

Her ruling raises the bar for what prosecutors must prove to win convictions on those counts.

Manning faces the possibility of life in prison if convicted aiding the enemy. He has been in pretrial confinement since he was charged in May 2010. He has been held since April 2011 at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

His purported motivation for the leaks, according to logs of his alleged online chats with a confidant-turned-government-informant, was that he wanted to expose the truth after becoming disillusioned about American military policies.

In previous proceedings, the defense, led by civilian attorney David Coombs, has highlighted Manning's frustration with being a gay soldier at a time when homosexuals were prohibited from serving openly in the U.S. armed forces. Defense lawyers also have contended that Manning's apparent disregard for security rules during stateside training and his increasingly violent outbursts after deployment were red flags that should have prevented him from having access to classified material.

They also maintain that the material WikiLeaks published did little harm to national security.

Islamic Militants Stomp U.S. Forces In Big Army Wargame

June 6, 2012 Sydney J. Freedberg Jr., Defense AOL.Com

US ARMY WAR COLLEGE:

It's a week into the war, and things are getting ugly.

Fifty American and allied troops are dead, four hundred are wounded -- some in city fighting against Islamic militants, some when the surprisingly sophisticated foe shot down their aircraft with shoulder-fired missiles and anti-helicopter mines.

Now the US-led task force has seized the two seaports that were its objectives, only to find the enemy has sabotaged the dock facilities. No supplies are getting through to the refugees that the intervention was meant to protect in the first place.

Meanwhile, cruise missiles and cyber-attacks have hit the coalition's staging bases in Italy.

Reports have come in of radiological "dirty bombs" and a toxic chemical spill at an industrial site too ill-timed to be an accident.

The enemy irregulars fight, while across the border the hostile nation-state that armed them in the first place is threatening to unleash its own regular military in the guerrillas' support.

Fortunately, of course, all this is fiction, a status update yesterday morning at the Army's annual wargame held here at the War College.

So it's a British officer who gives the bad news about the Mideastern operation at the morning briefing.

"You needed ports, (the enemy) knew you needed ports," he said. "They were ready for you."

While the US-led task force maneuvered elaborately by sea and air to deceive the enemy commanders where they would land, ultimately the coalition had no way to bring in the supplies its own forces needed, let alone humanitarian aid, without controlling a handful of major seaports.

So the enemy commanders ignored the feints -- their militiamen lacked the kind of mobile reserve force that would have been needed to try to counter them anyway - - and simply dug in where they knew the US would eventually have to come to them.

"We had to go here; we're very predictable," sighed one US Army officer later in the briefing.

The military has invested in the capability to bring forces ashore where there is no port -- formally called JLOTS, Joint Logistics Over The Shore -- but the Army and Navy together only have enough such assets to move supplies for one reinforced Army brigade, while the Marines can land another brigade-plus.

That's only a fraction of the force required in this scenario. While the resulting dependence on established infrastructure -- seaports, airfields, bases in friendly countries -- is often thought of as a purely logistical problem, in this kind of conflict it can have bloody tactical consequences.

Likewise, in this wargame, said the same Army officer who lamented American predictability, the initial planning spent too much time on the long-range threat, which proved relatively small, and not enough on the short-range surprises the enemy could pose once the US tried to seize the seaports, like the anti-helicopter mines -- a real-world technology available from Bulgarian arms makers -- or sabotage of the port facilities.

"When you get onto shore, what happens next?" the Army officer asked. The Air Force and Navy concepts didn't address that question, he argued.

"For this game we're stuck using the current stuff that we have," lamented one participant.

Given tightening budgets, the Army will have to tackle this problem without new technology for years to come.

Thieving Major Gets 6 Months In Prison

Jun 6, 2012 The Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — The U.S. Attorney's Office says a West Texas Army major has been sentenced to six months in a federal prison for taking illegal gratuities from a contractor while stationed in Mosul, Iraq, in 2008.

Christopher Grant Bradley of El Paso, Texas, was also ordered to pay \$20,000 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Defense during a court hearing Wednesday.

Bradley had pleaded guilty in April to two counts of illegally accepting gratuities.

The 42-year-old Bradley assisted in developing facilities at the Forward Operating Base Diamondback.

Prosecutors say Bradley escorted the contractor around the base and helped circumvent security procedures that saved the contractor time and money.

The Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction says it has about 100 pending investigations on alleged wrongdoing during the reconstruction of Iraq.

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

**Rise like Lions after slumber
In unvanquishable number,
Shake your chains to earth like dew
Which in sleep had fallen on you-
Ye are many — they are few
-- Percy Bysshe Shelley, 1819, on the occasion of a mass murder of British
workers by the Imperial government at Peterloo.**

**“Democrats And Labor Types
Are Coming Up With A Lot Of
Excuses For Scott Walker’s
Victory In Wisconsin”**

**“But Lingerin Too Long On The
Money Explanation Is Too Easy”**

**“The State AFL-CIO Chooses
Litigation And Electoral Politics Over
Popular Action, Which Dissolves
Everything Into Mush”**

**“The Horrible Mistake Of Channeling A
Popular Uprising Into Electoral Politics”**

06 Jun 2012 & 07 Jun 2012 LBO News from Doug Henwood [Excerpts]

Democrats and labor types are coming up with a lot of excuses for Scott Walker’s victory in Wisconsin.

Not all are worthless. But the excuse-making impulse should be beaten down with heavy sticks.

Yes, money mattered.

Enormous amounts of cash poured in, mainly from right-wing tycoons, to support Walker's effort to snuff public employee unions. While these sorts of tycoons — outside the Wall Street/Fortune 500 establishment — have long been the funding base for right-wing politics, they seem to have grown in wealth, number, consciousness, and mobilization since their days funding the John Birch Society and the Goldwater movement in the 1950s and 1960s.

But lingering too long on the money explanation is too easy.

Several issues must be stared down.

One is the horrible mistake of channeling a popular uprising into electoral politics. As I wrote almost a year ago (Wisconsin: game over?):

It's the same damn story over and over. The state AFL-CIO chooses litigation and electoral politics over popular action, which dissolves everything into mush.

Meanwhile, the right is vicious, crafty, and uncompromising.

Guess who wins that sort of confrontation?

There were several things wrong with the electoral strategy (beyond, that is, the weakness of electoral strategies to begin with).

Barrett was an extremely weak candidate who'd already once lost to Walker (though by a slightly narrower margin than this time).

Suppose instead that the unions had supported a popular campaign—media, door knocking, phone calling —to agitate, educate, and organize on the importance of the labor movement to the maintenance of living standards?

If they'd made an argument, broadly and repeatedly, that Walker's agenda was an attack on the wages and benefits of the majority of the population?

That it was designed to remove organized opposition to the power of right-wing money in politics?

That would have been more fruitful than this major defeat.

It is a defeat.

It is not, as that idiot Ed Schultz said on MSNBC last night, an opportunity for regroupment.

Collective bargaining has mostly disappeared in the private sector, and now looks doomed in the public sector. There are something like 23 states with Republican governors and legislative majorities ready to imitate Walker who will be emboldened by his victory. And there are a lot of Dems ready to do a Walker Lite. If they don't disappear, public sector unions will soon become powerless.

That means that if unions ever want to turn things around — and I'm old-fashioned enough to believe that we'll never have a better society without a reborn labor movement — they have to learn to operate in this new reality.

Which means learning to act politically, to agitate on behalf of the entire working class and not just a privileged subset with membership cards.

Private sector unions are virtually gone, and those that remain are negotiating concessions.

Public sector unions were safe for a long time, but now they're on the chopping block.

Dems will chop more slowly than Reps, but they will chop nonetheless.

A lot of what I hear from even good union people amounts to an intensified dedication to the status quo.

But that won't work.

Unions have to shift their focus from the workplace to the community at large, from private benefits enjoyed by a few to public benefits enjoyed by everyone, or they're doomed.

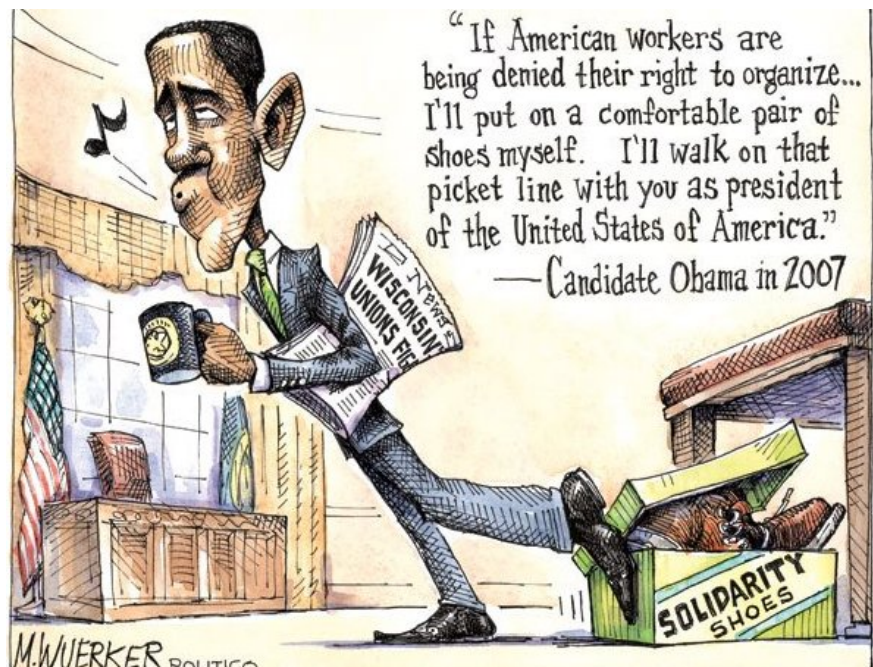
MORE:

**“What We’ve Seen In Wisconsin
Is What Happens When You
Stifle A Mass Movement At Birth
And Turn It Into A Political
Campaign”
“Labor Leaders Handed The Ball
To Elected Democrats, To**

Campaign Consultants And Media Hacks”

“They Turned A Nascent Movement Into A Series Of Electoral Campaigns”

“They Turned The Movement Into A Campaign, And Then Managed To Lose The Campaign”



It fell to labor union leaders, whose political strategy for more than a generation has been to uncritically funnel their members volunteer energies and union dues into uncritical support for Democratic politicians whether they come through or not, to bring those hundreds of thousands in uncontrolled, unpredictable political motion back inside the law, back within the two-party elite consensus, back into the well-worn dance steps of the election cycle.

06/06/2012 by Black Agenda Report managing editor Bruce A. Dixon, Black Agenda Report

Bruce A. Dixon is managing editor of Black Agenda Report, and serves on the state committee of the Georgia Green Party. He can be reached at [bruce.dixon\(at\)blackagendareport.com](mailto:bruce.dixon(at)blackagendareport.com)

How did we get from hundreds of thousands in the streets of Madison, Wisconsin demanding union rights for everybody and fundamental economic justice for all, to a desultory set of Democratic campaigns for the candidates who, as they say, sucked the least, and ended up losing.

Sixteen months ago the eyes of the nation and the world were on Madison, Wisconsin.

Crowds in the tens of thousands surrounded, occupied and refused to leave the state capitol building.

Local cops ignored orders to disperse them, and when authorities finally evicted protesters from hallways, offices and legislative chambers, their numbers grew, reaching the hundreds of thousands multiple times before the crisis was over. Local schools were shut down because teachers called in sick en masse.

For a short while a general strike, localized in Madison, but with wide and visible support around the state and country seemed a real possibility.

Thousands of Americans from surrounding states converged upon Wisconsin to join the throngs around the state capitol.

Thousands in those crowds, and countless others watching from far and near began to realize this was a unique political moment.

They were at a place well outside the prescribed steps of America's political dance.

It was a moment in which the elite politicians, the media pundits, the bosses and the billionaires were not the only or even the decisive shot callers.

The next move was truly in the hands of those tens and hundreds of thousands of working people in motion, the people in the streets.

What we saw coming together on Wisconsin street corners and in the wave of state and nationwide public support behind them was an authentic mass movement being born.

We know that's what it was because it contained, all at the same time, what we identified back in 2005 as the five necessary characteristics of such things;

1. Mass movements have political demands anchored in the deeply shared values of their core constituencies.
2. Mass movements look to themselves and their shared values for legitimacy, not to courts, laws or elected officials. A mass movement consciously aims to lead politicians, not to be led by them.

3. Mass movements are civilly disobedient, and continually maintain the credible threat of civil disobedience. They inspire and embolden large numbers of ordinarily nonpolitical souls to engage in personally risky behavior in support of the movement's political demands.

4. Mass movements are supported by lots of vertical and horizontal communication reinforcing its core values.

5. Mass movements capture the energy, enthusiasm and risk taking spirit of youth. Nobody ever heard of a mass movement of old or even middle aged people.

Fox News and right wing pundits spread panicky lies.

Republicans denounced Democrats and defamed protesters.

Some Democrats hesitated before tepidly endorsing the protests. Some smarter Democrats tried to pretend they were among its leaders. But these were bit players, working from the outside.

It fell to labor union leaders, whose political strategy for more than a generation has been to uncritically funnel their members volunteer energies and union dues into uncritical support for Democratic politicians whether they come through or not, to bring those hundreds of thousands in uncontrolled, unpredictable political motion back inside the law, back within the two-party elite consensus, back into the well-worn dance steps of the election cycle.

Thus it was union leaders who damped down the calls for, and explicitly repudiated talk of a general strike.

To be fair, under present federal and state laws, a union official who even calls for, let alone is part of pulling off a general strike is probably guilty of multiple felonies and conspiracies to commit, perhaps even RICO and terrorist prosecutions if judges and district attorneys are feeling ambitious. Such an official also risks confiscation of union funds and assets, either outright in a hurry or after prolonged expensive litigation.

But that's what people involved in movements do --- they take individual and collective risks and they violate laws for the cause, whatever that happens to be.

So there was no general strike.

Union leaders ran as fast as they could in the other direction.

They summoned their institutional resources, their organizers and media spokespeople, and their funding.

They turned a nascent movement into a series of electoral campaigns, first against a handful of state senators in 2011 and then the statewide recall campaign that ended in defeat this week.

They turned the movement into a campaign, and then managed to lose the campaign.

Political campaigns are pretty much where movements go to die, get betrayed or are stillborn because turning a movement or near movement into a campaign robs it of the very specific features we've already mentioned, the features which make movements potent and often unpredictable political actors.

When movements become campaigns their participants lose their independence and initiative.

Instead of being ready and willing to act outside the law, they become its most loyal supporters.

And instead of looking to their own shared values, they look to political candidates and elected officials who must remain inside the elite-defined rules of political decorum and law to preserve their candidacies and/or careers.

The campaigns that come out of movements still retain and utilize lots of horizontal communication.

But instead of that chatter reinforcing the independence and dynamic energy and the risk-taking spirit of youth, it becomes all about the political processes and compromises needed to win the next election.

And when a movement's core values are no longer the gold standard, there are lots of compromises to be made.

It can be a pretty quick slide from hard hitting demands like full employment with a living wage, Medicare for all, free quality education as a human right, stopping the bailouts, guaranteeing union rights for everyone and ending the imperial wars to electing the candidate that sucks the least, even only a little less.

When would-be movements sideline the youthful risk-taking initiative and egalitarian core values that might have sustained them to become political campaigns, they generally don't even run good campaigns.

The crowds on the sidewalks and parking lots in Madison were conducting anti-racism seminars and study groups.

But the electoral campaign the whole thing was turned into, even though they had a whole year to plan, neglected to do the labor-intensive ground game of massive voter registration in poor and minority communities.

They spent their relatively scarce dollars on media instead, and pursued the easy consultant-class strategy of pursuing the "frequent voters" alone.

They didn't talk about the poor and renters, of which there are many in Milwaukee, Wisconsin's largest city.

They only talked about the middle class.

They didn't talk much about mass incarceration either, even though Wisconsin and Milwaukee consistently have the highest rates of black imprisonment in the US, higher than Louisiana, Georgia or Mississippi.

They came up with a black candidate for lieutenant governor.

But mostly they went from hundreds of thousands of people shivering in the cold, standing outside the people-proof, democracy-proof cages of elite consensus and two-party politics and beginning to feel their own power to decide what to do next to folks campaigning for the candidate and the slate that sucked less.

If the leaders of organized labor were teachable there would be lots of lessons here.

But these are folks who've learned nothing and forgotten nothing, and whose job is making sure most of us don't learn much new either.

For them, the lesson is that turning aside a general strike situation and making it into a political campaign can drag their careers out a few more years. For the rest of us, the 99%, there are other lessons.

What we've seen in Wisconsin is what happens when you stifle a mass movement at birth and turn it into a political campaign.

You always lose the movement.

You usually lose the campaign.

And you always lose the initiative.

Labor leaders handed the ball to elected Democrats, to campaign consultants and media hacks.

They took the struggle from the street, where they had the advantage, to the TV and radio airwaves and in social media, where the unlimited spending allowed recent court decisions and corporate control over mass media made all the difference.

In theory, it might be possible to get some other result from turning movements into campaigns. But in the real world, this is the way it's worked out so far.

If turning movements into campaigns is bad business, what about building movements out of campaigns?

Using campaigns to spark movements hasn't worked well either, though it gets talked about a lot.

You can sometimes get young people excited for a while in a political campaign too.

Millions of youth gave freely of their time to help elect Obama in 2008. But the day after election day they were sent home.

No movement there.

A generation earlier folks who walked the precincts for Jesse in 84 and 88 promised to build a lasting movement out of their networks. It didn't happen then either, and almost never does.

When we bear in mind again the unique characteristics of a movement it's easy to see why.

Political campaigns, even successful ones, don't teach risk-taking.

Political campaigns don't prepare you to operate outside the law or how to discredit and de-legitimize unjust law..

Campaigns won't show you how to make the politicians follow you, instead of you following the politicians, the judges, the pundits and that whole elite crowd.

Real change comes from movements, not from campaigns.

The only thing that makes the politicians follow you is a mass movement, a movement that does everything political campaigns don't.

The only worthwhile political campaigns are ones that utilize public receptivity to discussions around issues to present and make popular accurate analyses of the world the way it is, and compelling visions of the world the way we want it to be.

Not the candidate that sucks least.

Win or lose, these are the only campaigns that empower people, the only ones worth pouring your energy into, the only ones that build, rather than strangle and discourage mass movements.

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.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

How The Heroic Zionist Army Makes War On Unarmed Fishermen: “Take Off Your Clothes,’ Ordered The Soldier Over His Megaphone” “The Old Man And His Son Removed Their Clothing” “More Often, The Gunboats Shoot At The Fishing Skiffs”

4 June 2012 by Amira Hass, Haaretz

“Take off your clothes,” ordered the soldier over his megaphone. The old man and his son removed their clothing.

“Get into the water,” the soldier continued shouting into the megaphone. The son, 18, entered the water from the fishing skiff and swam over to the Israeli navy gunboat.

Just 45 minutes earlier, when the fishermen were stopped at a distance of 50 meters from the gunboat, the first order had been, “Turn off your engine.”

They turned it off. “You and the boy come forward,” the youthful voice ordered them. The man and his son advanced to the boat’s prow.

Mohammed Baker, 62, a fisherman since he was 17, said with concern in his voice: “Captain, we are not a danger (to you).”

The young soldier with the megaphone answered: “Shut up.”

But the old man, easily the age of the soldier’s grandfather, continued: “We fish here every day. We have not passed the line.”

He was referring to the line from the Gaza shoreline set by the Israeli military for Palestinian fishermen, beyond which they are forbidden to fish.

The soldier repeated into his megaphone: "Shut up. Stop talking."

The old man and his son stood at the prow for a half-hour.

Only when another gunboat approached and stopped were they ordered to strip. The son swam over and climbed onto the gunboat. The soldiers threw a buoy attached to a rope to the father.

He climbed down from his boat, his only source of income, as he told me on Sunday by telephone in a voice on the verge of tears.

Holding on to the buoy, he was pulled onto the gunboat. It was 9 o'clock in the morning, May 5.

And the day had actually started out well; in an hour-and-a-half of fishing, they had caught two-and-a-half kilos of fish.

This strip-and-swim procedure is carried out several times a month: summer and winter, day and night, hot and cold, old and young, it makes no difference.

More often, the gunboats shoot at the fishing skiffs.

Al-Mezan, the Gazan human rights organization, has recorded 12 instances in May of the Israeli navy firing live ammunition at fishing boats that set out from the Gazan ports. The navy detained nine fishermen (all of whom were released within 12 hours) and confiscated four fishing boats and their equipment (which are returned, usually in damaged condition, after about a year).

On May 30, four fishermen were detained; on May 27, a little before midnight, our forces fired on a fishing boat in the vicinity of Rafah.

Our soldiers told the two fishermen, aged 59 and 65, to undress, jump into the water and climb onto the gunboat. The older one was allowed to return to the boat. The second was detained and released the next afternoon. On May 22, our forces fired on a fishing boat near Dir al-Balah. There were no injuries to our soldiers. The enemy hurried to the shore without food or money for his family.

The Oslo Accords permit Gazan fishermen to sail up to 20 nautical miles from shore. In practice, the furthest they were allowed to fish was 12 miles. This was shortened to six miles after 2000, and since the Operation Cast Lead military onslaught conducted by Israel against Gaza during winter 2008/2009, the permissible limit is only three nautical miles.

Yellow buoys mark the line. Some people take the risk and cross it because pickings are slim within the limit, and sewage often reaches this area, raising the chances of pollution.

According to the testimony of many fishermen who have acquired GPS navigation systems for the sake of accuracy, the Israeli navy often fires on their boats even when they have not crossed the line.

Compared to earlier months, the attacks grew in May, Al-Mezan reports.

The organization surmises that there are two reasons for the escalation of such attacks: to reduce the three-mile limit further, and to supply the Shin Bet security services with people who can be interrogated and pressured for some kind of information.

And so, after the strip-and-swim procedure, the handcuffed and blindfolded detainees are brought to the pier in Ashdod, according to the testimonies collected by Al-Mezan.

They are dressed in disposable pants and shirts, and photographed, but not until their blood pressure and temperature are taken.

“High, high,” an examiner reprimanded Baker and referred to his blood pressure. “It’s because of you,” the 62-year-old man said.

He and his son were held, handcuffed and blindfolded, for six hours. Afterwards they were taken to what was apparently a Shin Bet facility at the Erez crossing between Israel and Gaza. There, for the sake of security, our Israeli boys checked them with metal detectors and placed them in a room with a computer and a man in civilian clothing.

One of those interrogated reconstructed the investigation for Al- Mezan: “I told the interrogator that we did not go beyond 2.5 miles, which showed on the GPS, and the officer who detained us had fired without any warning.”

The man in civilian clothes answered, “I’m not familiar with the entire sea, and I’m here so that you can help me.” The man in the disposable clothes said: “I can’t help you. I am a fisherman who understands only the language of fishing, and I need someone to help me get back my fishing boat and personal belongings.”

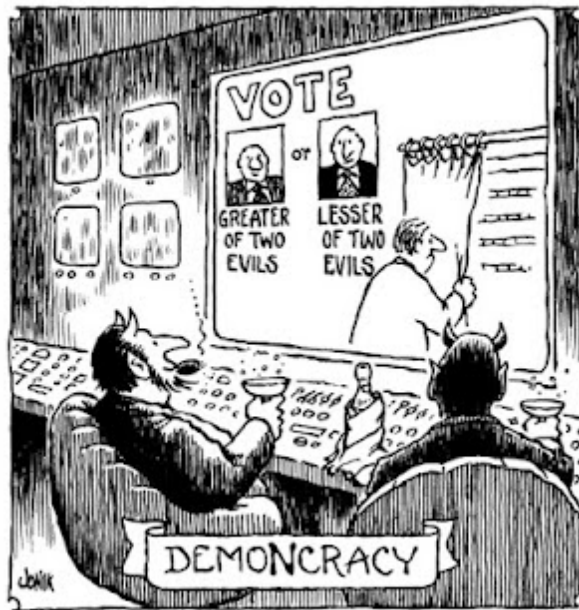
The interrogator asked about the Gaza policemen at the port, and the interrogated answered, “I don’t know about anything except for my boat.”

The Israeli said, “You trespassed. Let your government help you.” The Palestinian explained to him that the Oslo Accords say the permitted fishing range is 20 nautical miles. The Israeli had had enough. “Your government should help you. Yalla, get out of here.”

In response, the army spokesman says that security regulations limit sailing because terror organizations make use of the sea, and in order to enforce the regulations, “the navy takes various steps to remove boats that sail beyond permissible limits, including orders to return to shore, and even detainment as needed. According to the rules of engagement, live ammunition is used only as a last resort, and in a considered and cautious manner.”

[To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to: www.rafahtoday.org The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves “Israeli.”]

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



Enemy Combatants At Work Again:

**“Police In Aurora, Colo., Searching
For Suspected Bank Robbers
Stopped Every Car At An
Intersection, Handcuffed All The
Adults And Searched The Cars”
“The Search Lasted Between An Hour
And A Half And Two Hours”**

[Thanks to SSG N (ret'd) who sent this in.]

[She writes: “Of course, the bad guy sat patiently in his car until they had searched the 18 cars ahead of him. Didn’t get out and shoot, didn’t have the loot on him either.”]

[And the cops forgot all about upholding and defending the Constitution, and the rights of all the other adults waiting in hand cuffs.

[Welcome home, soldiers.]

Jun 4, 2012 By Erin McLaughlin, ABC News

Police in Aurora, Colo., searching for suspected bank robbers stopped every car at an intersection, handcuffed all the adults and searched the cars, one of which they believed was carrying the suspect.

Police said they had received what they called a “reliable” tip that the culprit in an armed robbery at a Wells Fargo bank committed earlier was stopped at the red light.

“We didn’t have a description, didn’t know race or gender or anything, so a split-second decision was made to stop all the cars at that intersection, and search for the armed robber,” Aurora police Officer Frank Fania told ABC News.

Officers barricaded the area, halting 19 cars.

“Cops came in from every direction and just threw their car in front of my car,” Sonya Romero, one of the drivers who was handcuffed, told ABC News affiliate KMGH-TV in Denver.

From there, the police went from car to car, removing the passengers and handcuffing the adults.

“Most of the adults were handcuffed, then were told what was going on and were asked for permission to search the car,” Fania said. “They all granted permission, and once nothing was found in their cars, they were un-handcuffed.”

The search lasted between an hour and a half and two hours, and it wasn’t until the final car was searched that police apprehended the suspect.

“Once officers got to his car, they found evidence that he was who they were looking for,” Fania said. “When they searched the car, they found two loaded firearms.”

The actions of the police have been met with some criticism, but Fania said this was a unique situation that required an unusual response.

“It’s hard to say what normal is in a situation like this when you haven’t dealt with a situation like this,” Fania said. “The result of the whole ordeal is that it paid off. We have arrested and charged a suspect.”

The other people who had been held at the intersection were allowed to leave once the suspect was apprehended.

[A Tiny Sample From A Flood Of Very Angry Comments Overwhelmingly Condemning The Police Dictatorship Of Aurora, Colorado]

Posted by: Tom EE | June 5, 2012, 11:51 am 11:51 am

Me: Good morning, officer, how can I help you?

Officer: Please get out of the car so I can handcuff you.

Me: Am I under arrest?

Officer: No, sir. I need to handcuff you to protect myself while we get all of these other people out of their cars so we can search their cars.

Me: Do you have a warrant to search my car?

Officer: No, sir, I expect you to give me that permission without me taking a day to get a warrant.

Me: I am a citizen of the United States, a veteran, and have worked 16 years as a criminal and civil paralegal. In accordance with the 4th amendment of the U.S. Constitution which you took an oath to uphold, if I am not under arrest and you do not have a warrant to search my vehicle, please move back so I can be on my way to the VA Hospital to attend my doctor's appointment which I had to wait three months to get.

Thank you.

Similar situation to the above storyline, only they had the make, model and color of the vehicle they were looking for.

I had the same make, different model and color.

Another officer moved in front of my vehicle so I couldn't leave and I was forced out of my car, handcuffed, and they searched my car without my permission. They took almost everything out of my vehicle looking for anything they could find. The only things they found was a survival knife (blade less than 3") and a ceremonial sword.

I spent over 3 hours sitting on the side of the road before being allowed to put my belongings back into my car (I am handicapped and was in extreme pain before I finished.

They didn't let me take my pain meds and wanted to keep them [hydrocodone]. It took two months to get my sword and knife back.

I missed my doctor's appointment and am still waiting for another appointment to have a skin cancer "burned off."

The city has denied my claim since I was not "out" any money. The two attorneys I have talked to want a couple thousand to file suit and as I am retired, that is almost two

months of “benefits” that I have paid for since I was 15. Guess I will have to be my own attorney.

Posted by: Concerned Mom of 5 | June 5, 2012, 2:27 pm 2:27 pm

Thank the Gods of Government that the Police now have the right to arrest anyone for a crime that was committed within thier district.

Nothing to do now but burn that paper that gives the citizens their rights.

I heard a child stole a candy bar a few blocks away.....time to start cavity searching anyone within a 10 mile radius.....just to be safe.

All Hail New America!!!

Posted by: Kolgoroath | June 5, 2012, 2:32 pm 2:32 pm

As a former Deputy Sheriff, I have to raise the bullcrap flag on this one.

Those that think it was OK for the Police to do this better think otherwise.

Please read the Constitution because we are slowly losing our rights as Americans.

No one, I mean no one should be stopped if the there is no description from dispatch (especially the race and clothing of the suspect).

Yes, the Police caught the guy but you have a right to not be handcuffed for something you did not do; you have the right to walk away if you it is a consensual contact.

There is a reason why banks are FDIC insured. Police will most likely catch the suspects another day. While it may not seem like a big deal, it is a big deal, because this crap will lead to other crap and before you know it it's out of control like it is all ready.

We as American are not learning from our founding fathers when it comes to the Constitution.

Three US ‘Diplomats’ Detained In Pakistan For Illegally Carrying Weapons

4th June, 2012 By Zahir Shirazi, DAWN.COM

PESHAWAR: Six people, including three US nationals, were detained Monday after police discovered a large cache of illegal arms from their vehicles.

According to police sources, the “suspicious cars” were stopped for a routine check at the Peshawar Motorway toll plaza when the weapons were discovered.

Police sources told Dawn.com that the weapons included 4 M4 assault rifles with 36 magazines and 4 pistols with 30 magazines.

US Consul General Mary Richard also reached the police station where the Americans were detained for questioning, urging officials to seize weapons but not to detain the foreigners.

The US Consul General however refused to give any comments on the arrests when approached by our reporter.

Reuters news agency reported a US embassy official as saying: “These officials were returning from a visit to Malakand University where they were preparing for an English education event for underprivileged children. They had all proper permissions but were stopped when returning to Peshawar.”

The six detained included three foreigners described as US diplomats, as well as three Pakistanis, which included a security guard and two drivers.

According to recent instruction from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government, foreign diplomats are prohibited from carrying weapons or travelling to prohibited areas in the province unless expressly permitted by the provincial government with a No Objection Certificate (NOC).

CLASS WAR REPORTS

“Heavy Clashes Reported Between Syrian Government Troops And Rebels In Damascus Yesterday” “The Fighting Again Made Its Way To The Centre Of President Bashar Al Assad’s Power”

Jun 9, 2012 By Zoi Constantine, The National [Excerpts]

BEIRUT: Heavy clashes were reported between Syrian government troops and rebels in Damascus yesterday, as the fighting again made its way to the centre of President Bashar Al Assad’s power.

Activists and residents reported some of the fiercest fighting in the capital since the uprising against the Al Assad regime began 15 months ago.

There were no immediate reports of casualties, but the clashes were said to have spread from the district of Kfar Souseh.

“The gunfire is so loud I think some bullets could have hit the house. I’m afraid to go outside to see what is happening,” said one resident in the Mezze neighbourhood.

Earlier yesterday, a car bomb exploded in the suburb of Qadsiya, killing two members of the security forces, according to activists. These reports could not be independently verified.

Meanwhile, more accounts and video purporting to show the aftermath of a massacre in the village of Qubeir emerged yesterday, as a team of United Nations observers reached the site.

Paul Danahar, a BBC correspondent travelling with the UN convoy, reported seeing gutted buildings in Qubeir and no sign of life.

“The stench of burnt flesh is still strong,” he wrote in a message on Twitter, and quoted activists as saying government forces had removed the bodies of the victims on Thursday while the observers were being hindered from reaching the village.

Anti-government demonstrations were reported in various parts of the country yesterday including the northern provinces of Idlib and Aleppo, the southern region of Deraa and suburbs of Damascus.

About 60,000 people took part in marches in the province of Hama yesterday, said a Syrian opposition activist in Turkey.

“There were protests all over the province,” Omar Shawaf said, adding that Syrian security forces bombarded parts of Latakia after protests there.

“Half of Latakia is under fire. Protests are growing by the day.”

Bahrain:

“tens of thousands of protesters staged the biggest anti-government demonstrations in weeks”

June 08, 2012 By Reem Khalifa, The Daily Star [Excerpts]

MANAMA, Bahrain:

Riot police in Bahrain fired tear gas and stun grenades Friday as tens of thousands of protesters staged the biggest anti-government demonstrations in weeks in the divided Gulf nation.

Opposition groups called for major rallies after a prominent rights activist, Nabeel Rajab, was placed back in detention earlier this week on fresh charges linked to his social media posts.

Bahrain has experienced near daily protests for 16 months caused by an uprising by the kingdom's majority seeking greater political rights from the Western-backed monarchy. At least 50 people have died in the unrest since February 2011.

There were no immediate reports of injuries from Friday's street battles, which left piles of burning trash and clouds of stinging tear gas in the western outskirts of the capital, Manama.

Earlier Friday, a defense lawyer said a court hearing is planned next week for an 11-year-old boy detained for allegedly taking part in the anti-government protests.

The lawyer, Mohsen al-Alawi, said the sixth-grade student is scheduled to appear in court on Monday on charges of joining an illegal gathering and other claims related to the ongoing unrest.

Al-Alawi said the boy, Ali Hasan, was arrested last month and took his school exams behind bars.

He is among the youngest suspects detained in Bahrain's crackdowns.

“The Revolution Continues, Free Egypt, Down With Military Rule”



A protester writes a message using sand and bottle caps that reads in Arabic “The revolution continues, free Egypt, down with military rule” after Friday prayers in Cairo’s Tahrir Square June 8, 2012. REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh

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