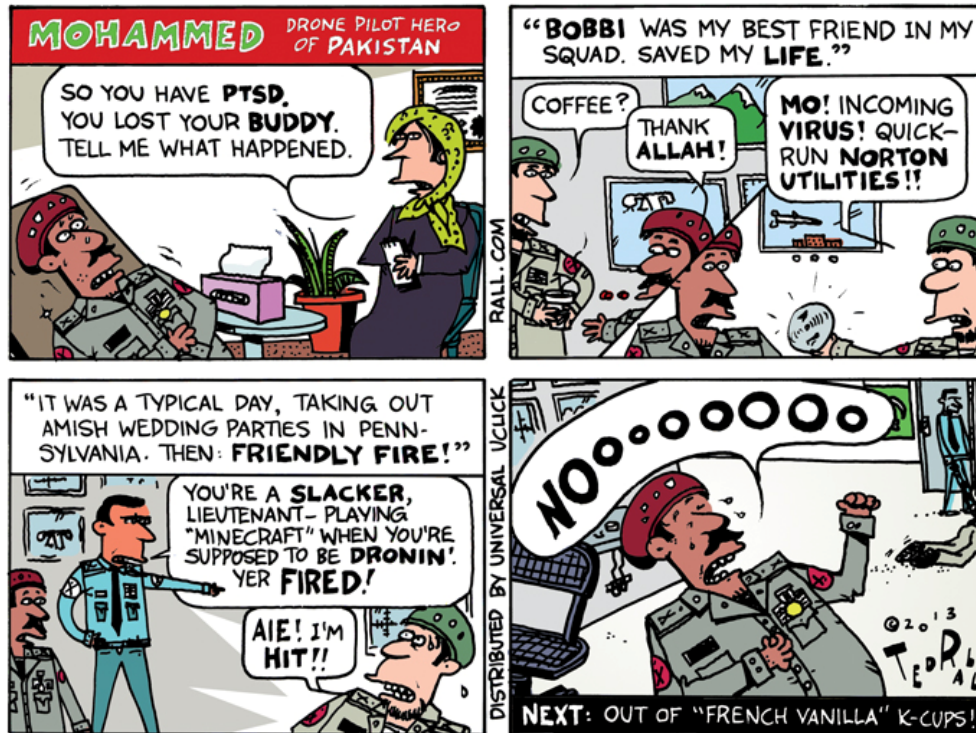


Military Resistance 11C9



FTA:

“If I Ever Have An Opportunity To Fuck The Government As They Have Fucked Me, I Will Take That Opportunity And Deal With The Consequences Of My Actions Later”

From: LS
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: March 12, 2013
Subject: FTA

Some seem to believe that a soldier only is traumatized, if the soldier has been to war.

But the truth is, once an individual enter into any military organization they become changed.

The ones who do not make it through the training, only exhibit the effects of trauma early. But those who endure, whether they continue a career with the military or leave before or after their term have experienced PTSD.

If I could turn back the hands of time, I probably would choose to not enlist knowing what it is that I know about our military now.

These son's of bitches have changed me, for the worst.

If I ever have an opportunity to fuck the government as they have fucked me, I will take that opportunity and deal with the consequences of my actions later.

This is what makes me a true soldier, having the Balls to withstand come what may.

I was not trained to run to a medic or to seek counseling when I was feeling uncomfortable emotionally, psychologically, or physically. I was trained to endure my ailments and complete the task at hand.

I understand why our enemies say that our soldiers are pussies. We fight with high powered projectiles from distances, while our enemies use strategic maneuvers to get up close and personal.

There was a time, when I would have fought to the end for this place.

But the only fighting that I am willing to do now, would be to save my own ass.

Uncle Sam has put a very bad taste in my mouth, and I understand why so many from other countries hate this place.

Promises are made to be broken, and Uncle Sam has broken his several times in several ways.

One day War will end up being fought on this soil, and Uncle Sam is going to wish for the soldiers that they have turned their backs to, to take a stand and protect this land. But they won't be getting my services.

As long as the fight isn't at my front door, I could give a shit less. We all will die some day. I choose to die for me and my family, not for someone who has already given me a "Royal Fucking".

Once again I say FTA! And GOD bless America.

Sincerely,

LS

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.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Buzkashi Bomb Kills Several Family Members Of The Afghan Speaker Of Parliament

13 March 2013 Associated Press

A bomber has blown himself up in a crowd of Afghans watching the traditional sport of buzkashi, killing seven people, officials said.

Among the seven killed in the bombing in the remote village of Basos were several family members of the Afghan speaker of parliament, said regional police spokesman Lal Mohammad Ahmadzai. Another eight people were wounded.

The parliament speaker, Abdul Raouf Ibrahim, was born in Basos. Ahmadzai said the dead include his father, two brothers and one nephew.

The bomber hit around 6pm local time, just as fans were gathering around the players as they came off the field at the end of the match, said Kunduz province police spokesman Sayed Sarwar Hussaini.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

MILITARY NEWS

Researcher Charges VA Covered Up Health Damage To Veterans Exposed To Toxic Materials From Burn Pits:

“On The Rare Occasions When Embarrassing Study Results Are Released, Data Are Manipulated To Make Them Unintelligible”

“The Foremost Crime Here Is The Pentagon’s Treating People Like Cheap Chattel, Disposable Property, To Be Used Like Kleenex”

March 13, 2013 by Steve Vogel, The Washington Post [Excerpts]

A senior epidemiologist for the Department of Veterans Affairs who resigned in December told a congressional committee Wednesday that the agency has covered up data showing adverse consequences for veterans who were exposed to toxic materials from burn pits and other environmental hazards in Iraq, Afghanistan and the first Gulf War.

Steven S. Coughlin testified that he resigned from the VA’s Office of Public Health in December “because of serious ethical concerns” about the agency’s conduct, which he said included not releasing study results that point to a connection between environmental exposures and illnesses.

“On the rare occasions when embarrassing study results are released, data are manipulated to make them unintelligible,” Coughlin said in his testimony to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs’ oversight and Investigations subcommittee.

Coughlin said during his work studying the relationship between exposure to burn pits and asthma and bronchitis among Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, his

supervisor told him not to look at data regarding hospitalizations and doctors' visits.

“When I advised him I did not want to continue as a co-investigator under these circumstances, he threatened me,” Coughlin said.

During the hearing, several speakers said the VA has been slow to clearly acknowledge research that has validated Gulf War illnesses as a serious medical condition.

“There are many examples large and small of the VA minimizing Gulf War illness,” said Lea Steele, a professor of biomedical studies and director of the Veterans Health Research Program at Baylor University.

Readers' Comments:

“Penalty For Disobedience Is Additional Long Term Family Separations, More Frequent And Extended Time In Combat Zones”

ChoKum wrote:
3/13/2013 4:34 PM EDT

The honor code for the military and the VA is Thou Shalt Not Snitch.

Penalty for disobedience is additional long term family separations, more frequent and extended time in combat zones, miserable performance reviews, and of course loss of promotions.

“The Foremost Crime Here Is The Pentagon's Treating People Like Cheap Chattel, Disposable Property, To Be Used Like Kleenex”

commonsense4commongoodcom wrote:
3/14/2013 10:10 AM EDT

The foremost crime here is the Pentagon's treating People like cheap chattel, disposable property, to be used like Kleenex, and it has been going on for a century at least.

The Pentagon has been sending U.S. citizens to their assured deaths, anticipated and calculated in percentages as acceptable troop loss, tolerable according to troop replacement potential.

They have never been concerned with how many soldiers are killed, maimed or poisoned, they've only been concerned with how many will be left available to fight the next incursion

The Pentagon has virtually become an autonomous force, much like a Vatican corporation, affecting many worldwide, only interacting with outside agencies when forced to, and largely unaccountable.

In the mind of the average general, when he plans for combat, he is still playing with toy soldiers who can be shot down or bombed with indifference and nonchalance, thinking they will simply be stood up again, and in the case of reality, replaced by new enlistments who desperately need employment.

As a corporation, which does business exclusively with other war profiteering corporations, the less money spent on disposable and replaceable employees, the more money for profit margins and CEO perks and play toys. One irony is, they do it all with our money, and we continue to let them

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

Wars throughout history have been waged for conquest and plunder and it is the working class who fights all the battles, the working class who makes the supreme sacrifices, the working class who freely sheds their blood and furnishes their corpses, and it is they who have never yet had a voice - in either declaring war or making peace. It is the ruling class that invariably does both. They alone declare war.

They are continually talking about patriotic duty. It is not their patriotic duty but your patriotic duty that they are concerned about. Their patriotic duty never takes them to the firing line or chucks them into the trenches.

-- Eugene V. Debs

Prospects For Syria's Revolution:

**“The Major Imperialist Powers,
Led By The United States, Have
Always Supported What They Call
An ‘Orderly Transition’ In Syria,
Which Means Only Superficial And
Partial Changes To The Structure
Of The Regime”**

**“This Is For Geostrategic Reasons,
Including Protecting The Zionist
Entity And Preventing The Revolution
From Succeeding And Spreading To
The Entire Arab East”**

**“The Traditional Left In Syria, As Well As
Regionally And Internationally, Has A**

Miserable And Opportunistic Position Towards Revolutions, Especially The Syrian Revolution”

March 7, 2013 Ghayath Naisse interviewed; Socialist Worker [Excerpts]

This month, the Syrian Revolution will mark its two-year anniversary.

The regime has responded to a popular uprising with bullets, tanks and warplanes. Yet in spite of the repression, the Syrian people remain determined to win their freedom. The demonstrations continue, and the armed resistance is steadfast.

Ghayath Naisse is a doctor and exiled activist.

He is a co-founder of the Committees for the Defense of Democratic Freedoms and Human Rights in Syria, formed in 1989, and an activist with the Revolutionary Left Current in Syria.

This interview was conducted in late January and originally appeared on the left-wing Almounadil-a website.

Imperial powers have sought to impose a settlement in Syria similar to the one employed in Yemen--sacrifice the head of the regime while keeping the regime's structures intact. They seem to have no interest in the complete collapse of a regime that has maintained total calm on the Israeli border since 1973. Does this calculation still stand?

Since the beginning of the revolution, the Revolutionary Left Current has taken a principled stand against any foreign military intervention. But we saw, at the same time, conservative and liberal sections of the opposition, especially the Syrian National Council, promoting intervention, and other sections, like the National Coordination Board for the Forces of Democratic Change and some remnants of the loyalist Communist Parties, promoting fear of intervention.

But these forces have been captivated by an illusion with no basis in actual fact.

The actual military intervention currently underway is being led by Russia and Iran *in support of the regime*. Saudi Arabia and Qatar, on the other hand, have only given a very limited quantity of military aid to groups close to them politically.

“The Major Imperialist Powers, Led By The United States, Have Always Supported What They Call An "Orderly Transition" In Syria, Which Means Only Superficial And Partial Changes To The Structure Of The Regime”

The major imperialist powers, led by the United States, have always supported what they call an "orderly transition" in Syria, which means only superficial and partial changes to the structure of the regime--and not necessarily the same as the Yemen scenario.

For the last two years, these imperialist powers have been saying that the solution in Syria will be political and not military.

This is for geostrategic reasons, including protecting the Zionist entity and preventing the revolution from succeeding and spreading to the entire Arab east, including the reactionary oil monarchies.

But this does not mean that imperialism's regional allies, like Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, have all pushed to topple the regime by channeling support only to Islamic and Salafi Syrian forces. We started to notice a change in the Saudi position during a visit of the Saudi Foreign Minister to Egypt, where he called for a "political solution"--in contrast to the Qatari and Turkish position that still bets on military and financial support for Islamic and Salafi forces.

The Israeli position was expressed clearly by Ehud Barak, the former Israeli Defense Minister, who announced early last year that the solution in Syria must be based on the following rules: providing an honorable and safe exit for Bashar al-Assad and his close circle; preserving the army and unity of the military establishment; and maintaining the security apparatus and the Baath Party.

In any case, the imperial powers and the Zionist entity see the destruction of Syria's infrastructure and the damage of its military capabilities as beneficial in the long run, because it will weaken Syria's capabilities on all fronts, whatever new ruling power emerges.

The economic situation is deteriorating because of international sanctions, the Syrian bourgeoisie squirreling away its money abroad (especially to Egypt) and now the participation of areas such as Aleppo, the nation's industrial capital, in the revolution.

Meanwhile, Syria's political isolation is also quite severe due to the withdrawal of ambassadors of various countries, continuing defections from the regime, and military defections from the army. How much more do you expect the regime to be able to withstand after two years of popular protests? What is the regime banking on?

It is true that the economic and social situation is deteriorating terribly, and there are continuous defections from the regime's forces, which has hampered the functioning of some of its military installations, as well as the sanctions.

But the dictatorship still retains enormous and devastating military capabilities. The regime's primary military and security institutions--which make up the core of its power--remain intact and effective. The defections during the last two years have not yet reached a level that would trigger their collapse. The regime's allies--Russia, Iran, the Iraqi government and Hezbollah--have provided it all manner of economic, military, security, logistic and diplomatic support.

Unlike the Tunisian and Egyptian regimes, which were toppled by revolutions and abandoned by their American and other allies, the Syrian regime enjoys ongoing support from allies that haven't abandoned it. For example, in the first week of the current year, Iran gave the Syrian regime a \$1 million loan after giving it \$5 billion last year.

This support from the regime's allies, in addition to the coherence of its security and military forces, has allowed it to prolong its brutal war against the Syrian people.

The regime believes it can exhaust millions of its citizens in the rebellious parts of the country by destroying the necessities of life, crushing basic social relations and inflicting enough pain to push the revolutionary masses to hopelessness, passivity and ultimately surrender.

The regime's brutality has already displaced about 4 million citizens who are now living under inhumane circumstances, destroyed around 1 million homes, and killed some 60,000 people. Almost 1 million more are now refugees in neighboring countries. It is a policy of total annihilation of the revolutionary strongholds, blockading them and cutting off the means for survival.

But the popular masses are determined to win salvation from the dictatorship, insisting on freedom, dignity and social justice. The people want more than ever to topple this criminal regime, and they are taking huge steps forward despite the enormity of pain and sacrifice.

“To Say That The Armed Popular Resistance Is Merely Groups Of ‘Islamists’ Is A Lie That Slanders The Syrian Revolution”

The media presents the armed resistance as "armed Islamist" groups. How accurate is this picture?

To say that the armed popular resistance is merely groups of "Islamists" is a lie that slanders the Syrian Revolution.

This picture is promoted by the media and the satellite channels of the reactionary oil monarchies because they fear the success of the Syrian Revolution and the possibility that it might inspire revolutionary movements among their own populations.

In particular, I am speaking of Al Jazeera, which is the ideological apparatus of the sheikdom of Qatar.

This does not deny the real increase of Syrian and non-Syrian Jihadist groups, especially since the beginning of last year, which are receiving military and financial support from Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

But we must always go back to facts on the ground: the armed resistance is a popular resistance first and foremost.

One current within the broad popular uprising that had mobilized in the streets has picked up weapons in response to the regime's horrific killing of protesters and its abuse of civilians.

Therefore, the armed resistance is that part of the rebellion that decided to pick up weapons to defend itself from the regime.

The number of fighters in the armed popular resistance is estimated at more than 100,000, while most reports indicate that Jihadist fighters number around 5,000. Let's assume double that number. Whatever the media may claim, these groups are miniscule compared to the size of the armed popular resistance. They have no tangible presence or popular influence.

It's important not to exaggerate their role, size or influence, but we also can't ignore their damage to the revolution.

It's essential to expose their harmful practices and reactionary social and political positions. This is exactly what the popular movement is doing--by organizing ongoing protests to repeatedly criticize these Jihadist groups and their reactionary goals.

The Syrian Revolution today has two aspects.

One is peaceful, the other armed.

We are counting on the growth of the popular movement.

And for the last year, the movement has not been based in the mosques, which was always a lame excuse made by some opportunists on the left to justify their alliance with the dictatorship.

We also aim to restructure the armed work by tying it to the popular movement and the program of the popular revolution.

It is also necessary to build a mass revolutionary leadership independent of the Syrian National Council and the National Coalition, which represent the liberal and conservative opposition, because this is a precondition for establishing progressive horizons for the success of the revolution.

Despite talk of massive aid from American imperialism, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, there is actually a refusal by these countries to provide any military aid. How do you see the ability of the armed resistance, in light of its modest capabilities, to continue its battle and further impact the course of the revolution?

Earlier, I mentioned that Saudi Arabia and especially Qatar only give arms and financial support to Jihadist groups, and what you are saying is absolutely true.

The armed popular resistance has received very little in the way of weapons and ammunition. Even the financial support hasn't been at levels pledged by countries that claim to be "friends of the Syrian people." The liberal opposition mentioned above has been releasing statement after statement exposing these countries' broken promises and their weak financial support.

The truth of the matter is that the Syrian National Council, which is dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood, has used the bulk of the Council's funding for the benefit of the Brotherhood by trying to buy loyalty through humanitarian relief efforts. Dozens of protests and masses of signs have condemned this, and the Muslim Brotherhood has largely failed in achieving its goal.

The armed popular resistance no longer puts any trust in the countries that pledge this kind of "friendship" with the Syrian people, nor do they trust the opposition groups mentioned above or the middle-of-the-road groups like the National Coordination Board for the Forces of Democratic Change.

The armed popular resistance primarily arms itself by capturing weapons from the regime's weapons depots. It also locally manufactures some weapons, especially small rocket launchers.

To be sure, the armed popular resistance plays an important role in the Syrian people's battle to free themselves from the yoke of the ruling dictatorial junta, but it needs to effectively unite its brigades under the program of the Syrian popular revolution--and no other. At the same time, it is urgent to raise the tempo of and broaden the popular movement because it is the main carrier of the revolutionary and popular program, while forming a mass popular leadership to bring the armed popular resistance under its banner.

In spite of all the difficulties and challenges--and this has happened in all popular revolutions--the masses learn every day from their experiences, failures and suffering.

And they figure out, on their own, the road to victory. The task of the revolutionary left is to fully participate in the people's struggle and articulate their revolutionary program.

The Revolutionary Coordinating Committees

The regime has attacked the civilian infrastructure in a third of Syria, refugees number more than 4 million, the population sorely lacks basic means of subsistence, and the economy has almost stopped completely.

How are people managing their affairs in the absence of the state? Have forms of self-management emerged?

It is first useful to note that the basic impetus for the revolutionary processes in our countries is the socioeconomic dynamic.

In other words, the fundamental social forces driving the popular Syrian Revolution are the popular classes of workers, toilers, the unemployed and the marginalized, in addition to students. But this revolution erupted in the absence of a mass revolutionary political leadership.

Nevertheless, the rebellious popular masses have established from below the tools to organize their struggle themselves, famously known as the revolutionary "coordinating committees."

Not satisfied with just that, we are also witnessing an important expansion of the popular "bodies of self-governance," also from below, known as the local and city councils. These are still in their initial stages and have not spread nationally yet due to the shelling and destruction that has descended upon the rebellious and "liberated" areas.

In most cases, members are elected to these councils, which then take care of organizing to meet the daily needs of the population, including health care, welfare, housing and food.

As revolutionary Marxists, we have for decades been putting forward the idea of a socialist alternative that, unlike the Stalinist experience, is built on workers' and toilers' power and is based on their democratically elected councils.

But the mass of our people did not have these experiences or memories. We were dependent on the experiences of other peoples and revolutions of the 19th and 20th centuries, especially the Paris Commune of 1871 and the Russian Revolution of 1917.

But thanks to the ongoing revolutions in the region, we in Syria and throughout the Middle East now have the experience and expertise based on our daily lived experiences, which now form a part of our current and future revolutionary tradition.

This reminds me of Hegel's saying: "The owl of Minerva takes flight only when the shades of night are gathering."

A quarter of the martyrs are Syrian students, and we hear the echoes of the students and youth organizing resistance in the universities of Aleppo, Homs and Damascus. What is the scale of student involvement in the revolution? Which sectors have a prominent role on the ground in the protests and struggle?

Yes, students have played an active and prominent role in the popular movement from the very beginning of the revolution. The students at the University of Aleppo, which is now called the University of the Revolution, were brutally massacred on January 15, 2013, when they were bombed by Air Force jets. More than 82 students were martyred and around 200 wounded. Students then demonstrated to protest this massacre on January 18.

But the student movement was not limited to the University of Aleppo. It included most Syrian universities, and especially the universities of Homs and Damascus. The youth and students are very active in organizing demonstrations and media work in the coordinating committees. Their activities did not stop for one moment, despite the murders and arrests. Students have participated in the wider popular demonstrations as well and have made up a high proportion of the martyrs. The student movement is the social group that as such has participated most in the revolution.

The popular classes are the driving force of the revolution--with workers at the forefront--but workers have generally participated as individuals and not as a class. This is due to the intense repression that the labor movement has experienced for decades as well as the regime's control over the General Federation of Trade Unions. And this doesn't

even account for the more than 3,000 factories that have shut down because of the dictatorship's brutal campaign of destruction.

Also fundamentally part of the revolution are the urban poor, the farmers and the unemployed.

Syrian women also play an important and prominent role at all levels, with dozens known for their roles in demonstrations and coordinating committees. They have also paid a high price as victims of murder and detention.

The popular masses have invented many forms of struggle, including massive popular demonstrations that we saw in July of last year in Hama and Deir Ezzour; fast demonstrations (like flash mobs) that only last for several minutes; and demonstrations in neighborhoods with narrow streets in order to prevent the security forces from finding and cornering them, thus allowing protesters to dissipate in narrow alleys when faced with repression.

Other actions include night demonstrations, releasing balloons carrying revolutionary slogans, dyeing the fountains red in major city squares, raising the flags of the revolution in streets and balconies, renaming streets with names of the revolution's martyrs and, of course, a series of general strikes. The most recent one, in December 2012, was called the Strike of Dignity and lasted two days.

Every Friday, the masses raise their slogans, most of them united, in response to specific situations or to express their opinion regarding any matter of concern to the revolution.

These are also a means to form a common mass consciousness and to generalize revolutionary experiences. Beyond this, there are many other forms of mass struggle.

“The Traditional Left In Syria, As Well As Regionally And Internationally, Has A Miserable And Opportunistic Position Towards Revolutions, Especially The Syrian Revolution”

A section of the traditional left opposes the Syrian Revolution and presents the revolutionary masses as unconscious pawns of imperialism. How does the revolutionary left intervene in both the peaceful and armed resistance? And what is its role?

The traditional left in Syria, as well as regionally and internationally, has a miserable and opportunistic position towards revolutions, especially the Syrian Revolution.

This has been clearly and finally exposed.

During the last three years of revolutions in our region, there has been a realignment of the left based on its posture to the ongoing popular revolutions. This mirrors to some extent--without exaggeration--the realignment of the international left after the First World War.

On one side, there are those left forces that stand with the working masses' revolutions, and on the other side is a traitorous and opportunistic left, part of which takes a centrist position between the dictatorships and the rebellious masses and another part of which openly and brazenly stands with the dictatorships against the popular revolutions.

The pretexts to justify this betrayal of the popular revolutionary cause are many, but all equally bankrupt.

There is the tired excuse of "anti-imperialism," as if Russia and the United States are not both imperialist countries.

And there is the excuse of the "Islamist danger," as if the revolutionary processes are mere fruit that should ripen according to our whims and mechanically fall into the hands of the left--otherwise, they are not revolutions.

The revolutionary left in Syria, both in terms of its organizations and individuals, has actively engaged in the popular revolution from the beginning.

As the Revolutionary Left Current, we presented a clear revolutionary program and strategy since mid-October 2011 called "The Transitional Program of the Revolutionary Left in Syria." We cannot, however, despite our comrades' intense enthusiasm, realistically intervene more broadly than our own modest efforts will allow in the face of the enormity of tasks posed by the Syrian Revolution.

We are working to build and strengthen ourselves in the unfolding messiness of the ongoing revolutionary process, while the comrades of the revolutionary left engage in all possible forms of mass struggle, raising their banner in all arenas, and winning to their ranks the best movement activists and militants. But we are still far from playing a central and leading role in the revolution, because that requires building a mass revolutionary workers' party.

We are working towards that with all patience and determination, but we are still far from achieving it in the foreseeable future. Therefore, we call for the formation of a united front of the Syrian left forces that are part of the revolution in order to raise the capacity of the Syrian left in revolutionary work and increase its impact and influence in general.

And we are calling broadly to encourage the formation of popular local councils from below and to build an alternative revolutionary leadership that grows out of the revolutionary movement and frames the armed popular resistance. We are also working on building an international solidarity network with the Syrian popular revolution and the revolutionary left within it.

“We Are Witnessing Revolutionary Processes That Will Not Stop At Partial Changes To The Standing Regimes”

How do you see the future of the Syrian Revolution playing out?

It is clear that what is happening in our countries--and Tunisia and Egypt are proof--is not simply a political revolution aimed at superficial changes to the top of the regime.

Nor are these revolutions with stages.

We are witnessing revolutionary processes that will not stop at partial changes to the standing regimes, especially since the driving motivations, which we've mentioned, require more than just political reforms to be achieved.

They require radical economic and social changes.

These revolutionary processes may go on for years and extend beyond the geographic borders of our region, as they have already. These are popular revolutions from below that push, without any doubt, toward the deepest political, economic and social changes in our countries. In other words, they are permanent revolutions.

The task of the revolutionary left is to push these revolutionary process forward by mobilizing the masses and increasing their level of revolutionary consciousness to the utmost degree, that is, towards social revolutions: socialism.

Like all revolutionary processes, their fate is not predetermined. They are processes that are open to many possibilities, depending on the balance of political and class forces, and the choices of the active forces within it.

But at the same time, they are processes of great liberation for all society. Whatever twists and turns they have seen, the broad masses have forcefully entered the center stage of history in our countries. And there is no turning back.

The Syrian Revolution faces many difficulties, obstacles and challenges.

The reactionary and imperialist governments, which falsely proclaim their friendship with the Syrian people, do not wish to see them succeed, because the Syrian Revolution's victory will mean the spread of revolutions like wildfire--throughout the Gulf states, Saudi Arabia and beyond.

We can foresee their impact with the eruption of revolutionary activity in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain that took place after the uprising in Yemen.

Despite all of this, and despite the Syrian Revolution's advances, retreats, twists and turns, we are deeply convinced, like the millions within the ranks of our rebellious masses, of our victory over the ruling dictatorial junta of the bourgeoisie.

Military Resistance In PDF Format?

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

Military Quietly Phasing Out Horse Meat MREs



13 March 2013 by G-Had, The Duffel Blog

CINCINNATI, OH – Following a series of tightening regulations by the Department of Defense, the military’s leading food producer has quietly put out a notice recalling its Meals Ready-to-Eat made exclusively from horse meat.

According to Wornick Foods, it will no longer produce the Hamburger Horse Meat MRE, unofficially referred to by troops in the field as “The Seabiscuit Special,” thanks to new Department of Defense guidelines that all MRE’s must reflect cultural norms.

Wornick will also be removing the popular Spicy Mexican Horse Meat, as well as the Cheese and Horse Meat Omelet MRE’s from circulation later this month.

The Hamburger Horse Meat MRE has received a large amount of negative publicity ever since it was featured on the Food Network show *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives*. The MRE was specifically singled-out by guest host Lance Corporal Eddie Gutierrez, a self-proclaimed “foodie” and “fine foods fanatic” who is also a Marine TOW Gunner at Camp Pendleton.

Gutierrez complained that the MRE was “a tough, chewy sampling of questionable cuts,” selected from “medium-grade stock at best.”

Wornick spokesman Raymond Dickens explained, “Our usual response to negative feedback is to add more tasty supplemental items to the MRE so the troops can at least enjoy something.”

“Unfortunately the Hamburger Horse Meat MRE proved so unpopular that the last version we released had to contain three packets of chocolate peanut butter and a syringe full of morphine.”

While the DOD has traditionally saved money in the past by outsourcing its horse meat production to various Romanian “Mom and Pop” slaughterhouses, recent scandals have forced the DOD to reevaluate its policy.

Traditionally horse meat has been an essential ingredient in up to 50% of MRE components, such as beef, pork, chili, meatballs, vegetable lasagna, dried fruit, pudding, and blueberry cobbler.

The DOD guidelines would also prevent Wornick Foods from bringing back the popular Dog Meat MRE, which was discontinued in the early 1990s when its South Korean manufacturer went bankrupt. At press time, Wornick was still evaluating whether the policy also applies to its African Macaroni and Cheese, Polish Tacos, or Soylent Green MRE’s.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?



U.S. soldier in Bejjia village Iraq, Feb. 4, 2008. (AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the email address if you wish and we'll send it regularly with your best wishes. Whether in Afghanistan or at 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 injustices inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657.

New T.S.A. Rules Draw Praise of National Arbitrariness Association

March 6, 2013 The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON — Under fire from flight attendants and others, the Transportation Safety Administration's new rules allowing air passengers to carry small knives, baseball bats, golf clubs, and other sporting goods onto airplanes got a vote of confidence today from the National Arbitrariness Association.

The N.A.A., whose stated mission is to "enhance the randomness, disorder, and confusion of American life," called the new list of approved items "just what the doctor ordered."

"We love that the list appears to have been put together with no organizing principle or logical system," said N.A.A. executive director Carol Foyler. "It combines the virtues of making no sense and being impossible to remember. Knives, bats, golf clubs, billiard cues—it's like they made this list using refrigerator-poetry magnets."

Ms. Foyler's only criticism of the list, she said, was that she "would have replaced billiard cues with fencing foils. That would have been even more random, in my opinion."

On the whole, though, she called the list "very solid, from an arbitrariness point of view—especially when you consider that they are still banning bottled water."

John S. Pistole, the administrator of the T.S.A., denied that the list of approved items was arbitrary, telling reporters, "This agency is committed to redoubling our efforts in the war on water."

Mr. Pistole said that thanks to the ban on bottled water, the T.S.A. had foiled over seven hundred Evian-based terror plots last year alone.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

**Farmers Planting Olive Trees On
Palestinian Land Attacked By Zionist
Army And Civilian Terror Mob:
The Army Moved Immediately To Protect
The Mob Throwing And Catapulting**

Stones At Palestinian Farmers, By Shooting Tear Gas And Rubber Bullets At The Palestinians



Olive tree with image of Rachel Corrie being planted in Asira (Photo by ISM)

March 12, 2013 By Lisa Marchant, International Solidarity Movement, Occupied Palestine

Farmers peacefully planting olive trees in the land of Asira al Qiblya were today disrupted by Israeli soldiers who halted the planting.

The presence of Palestinians on their own land also attracted the attention of illegal settlers from the nearby settlement of Yizhar, leading to them attacking Palestinians farmers and volunteers, throwing and catapulting stones.

The army moved immediately to protect the attackers, shooting tear gas and rubber bullets at Palestinians.

The olive trees were being planted in the vicinity of an Israeli military tower, recently built on a hill above Asira al Qiblya.

Because of this, soldiers hassled farmers throughout the day, with an escalation of hostility mid-morning, when around 20 soldiers approached and demanded that farmers should stop planting trees and leave the land, despite the fact that the Palestinian owner of the land notified them that he wished to continue farming.

The commander advised that the village should contact the Israeli district coordination office (DCO) to request permission – if permission was granted, he intimated, then the farmers would be allowed to access their land unhindered.

However, the villagers of Asira al Qiblya know this not to be the case.

Just last week, access was requested and granted for three days through the DCO – despite this, a shepherd grazing his herd on the land during this “permitted time” was ordered to leave the land and was severely beaten by soldiers.

It is clear that the outcome for villagers is the same whether permission is granted by Israel or not.

After a long confrontation with soldiers, farmers moved further down the hill to continue planting in an area arbitrarily deemed acceptable by the Israeli commander.

At this point, around twenty masked settlers from Yizhar arrived and proceeded to attack the farmers from their vantage point higher up the hill – throwing stones by hand and with slingshots.

Yizhar settlement is widely considered one of the most violent settlements in the West Bank, and all villages in its vicinity face regular attacks.

Palestinian youths moved to fend off the settler attack, but the Israeli army intervened on behalf of the attackers, shooting tear gas and rubber bullets at the villagers of Asira, until both the Palestinian villagers and settlers left the area.

No injuries or arrests were reported.

At the end of the day only around ten olive trees had been planted due to interruptions from the army and settlers – farmers were also not optimistic that the young trees would be allowed to remain on their land and suspected that either the army or settlers would destroy them. However, they refuse to relinquish access to their land despite these setbacks and will continue planting trees in the area.

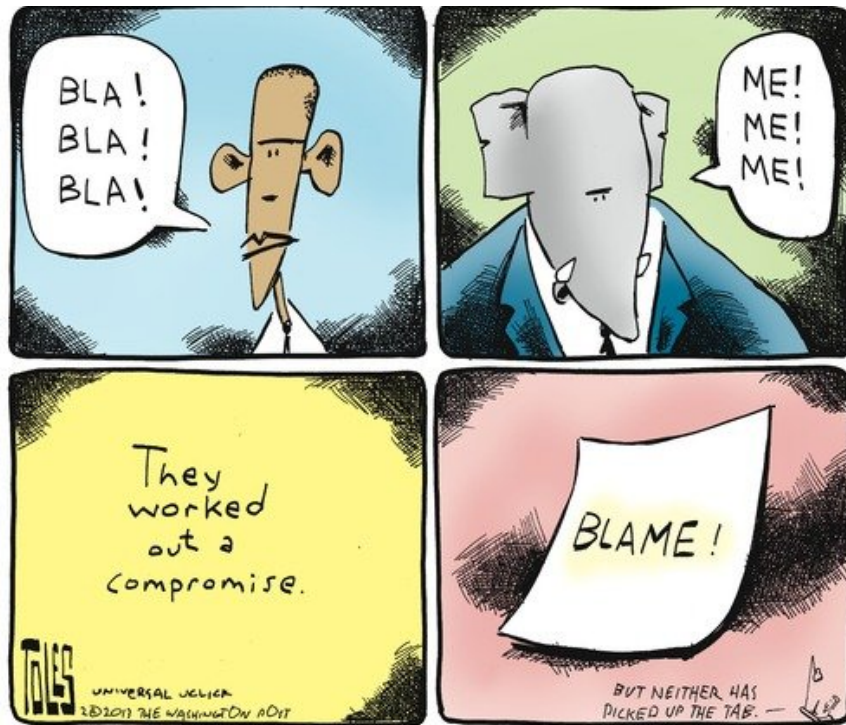
The olive trees planted today were donated by the International Solidarity Movement to replace Palestinian trees destroyed by Israeli forces and settlers during previous years – a common occurrence throughout the year.

They were planted in memory of ISM activist Rachel Corrie as the tenth anniversary of her death approaches.

She was crushed to death with an Israeli army bulldozer in Gaza in 2003 whilst protesting non-violently in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

[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



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“Demonstrations In Cities Across The Industrial Heartland Indicate A Broader Anger That Could Spell Trouble For Mohamed Morsi”

**“He Was A Hardworking Man. But In
The Eyes Of Morsi, He’s A Thug”**

**“Everyone Who Gets Shot Is A Thug In
The Eyes Of Morsi”**

Mr. Khater was a worker in a nearby factory, where he earned about \$22 a day. He struggled to make a living for his family, and wasn’t involved in the protests. He was simply buying bread near the scene when he was killed, said his uncle, Atef Ibrahim.

“He was a hardworking man. But in the eyes of Morsi, he’s a thug. Everyone who gets shot is a thug in the eyes of Morsi,” Mr. Ibrahim said after he directed

March 5, 2013 By Kristen Chick, Correspondent; Christian Science Monitor

[This is a late report, but useful for a first hand view of the resistance to the Egyptian dictatorship growing from below in working class centers. T]

This city in the center of Egypt’s Nile Delta bears the telltale signs of a protest-turned-fight with police – the street is littered with rocks, broken glass, and remnants of burned tires. The smell of tear gas lingers in the air, and boys collect the spent canisters that read “made in the USA.”

Such a scene has become familiar in the capital, Cairo, in the two years since a popular uprising unseated former President Hosni Mubarak.

But now the unrest is spreading to the Suez Canal cities and into the fertile Nile Delta region north of Cairo.

While authorities often portray protests in Cairo as the isolated actions of out-of-touch elites – or, if they turn violent, the work of thugs – demonstrations in cities across the industrial heartland indicate a broader anger that could spell trouble for Mohamed Morsi,

a former Muslim Brotherhood leader who was elected president last year and who has been the target of protests in recent months.

In Mansoura, a Nile Delta city of about 500,000, protesters accuse civilian members of the Muslim Brotherhood of attacking them alongside police and Mr. Morsi of using the police as a tool of repression, just as his predecessor, Mr. Mubarak, did.

Their anger intensified overnight Friday night, after a local man was killed when a police vehicle ran him over.

Activists are especially incensed that the Brotherhood, which was banned and persecuted under Mubarak, would now work alongside the same police force that used to arrest them and has not undergone any serious reform since the uprising against Mubarak.

“Morsi’s legitimacy has fallen,” activist Ibrahim Fadlom said Saturday, as a crowd chanted against the president at the man’s funeral. The crowd gathered outside a large mosque as the flag-draped body was carried down the steps and toward the cemetery.

“Morsi’s making the entire country Ikhwan,” said Mr. Fadlom, using the Arabic word for the Muslim Brotherhood. “We don’t acknowledge him as president, and we ask for his ouster. He should be tried just like Mubarak, because he killed those who voted for him.”

Suez Canal cities have been rocked by more severe unrest. Security forces and protesters clashed for the third day today in Port Said, at the mouth of the waterway.

Witnesses there reported that the Army and police clashed in recent days – a significant escalation of the situation; previously clashes were between only locals and the police. Five people were killed on Sunday, including two police officers.

The Mansoura protests began more than a week ago, partly in solidarity with Port Said, partly out of anger over what they say is Morsi’s attempt to control government institutions, rather than implement promised reforms.

Residents began protests at a local government building, hoping they could convince employees to leave and go on strike. Their critics say they tried to force government employees to join the strike by shutting down access to the building.

Protesters say that Muslim Brotherhood “militias” attacked them with rocks and clubs outside the government building, much as they did in Cairo in December, when members allegedly attacked a protest at the presidential palace.

Mohamed Taher, a journalist for Wafd newspaper in Mansoura, says he was taking photos and recording video of the protest yesterday when he saw local Muslim Brotherhood leaders directing a crowd of men to attack the protest. Mr. Taher said some of them attacked him and took his camera. His arm is in a fresh plaster cast from the assault.

Others said that Friday night, Brotherhood members took to side streets around the clashes between police and protesters and grabbed protesters who were fleeing from police, beating them or turning them over to security forces.

The Mansoura police's excessive use of force has only added to residents' grievances and fueled unrest further – by now a familiar pattern in Egypt.

The death of Hossam el Din Abdullah Abdel Aziz Khater, the Mansoura resident who was run over and killed by police, was no exception. The transfer of his body from the hospital to his funeral Saturday gathered an agitated crowd.

Mr. Khater was a worker in a nearby factory, where he earned about \$22 a day. He struggled to make a living for his family, and wasn't involved in the protests. He was simply buying bread near the scene when he was killed, said his uncle, Atef Ibrahim.

“He was a hardworking man. But in the eyes of Morsi, he's a thug. Everyone who gets shot is a thug in the eyes of Morsi,” Mr. Ibrahim said after he directed bystanders to go find a wooden plank on which to carry the body to the funeral.

The government often accuses paid thugs of infiltrating or carrying out protests.

“This is enough,” Ibrahim said of Morsi's presidency. “He failed miserably. If he finishes his term, he will kill all of us. Is this part of the renaissance project?” he asked, referring to Morsi's platform, which promised development of Egypt.

The crowd parted as Khater's wife came out of the morgue, leaning on relatives as she wailed and wept.

Someone held up his 1-1/2-year-old daughter, her curly hair pulled into pigtails and her face stained with tears.

As night fell in Mansoura Saturday, clashes with police began again. Young protesters threw Molotov cocktails at the building where police were positioned, across the street from the headquarters of the Popular Current, an opposition movement started by former presidential candidate Hamdeen Sabbahi. Police responded with tear gas.

The Popular Current's headquarters was buzzing with energy as dozens of young people came and went. The smell of tear gas hung heavily in the air.

As the crack of police shooting tear gas echoed outside, local movement leader Abdel Meguid Rashed sat in a dingy office and explained their grievances.

Morsi's moves to assert control over government institutions while ignoring the demands of the uprising have turned the people against him, he said.

Mr. Rashed insists that participating in a political system now dominated by Morsi and the Brotherhood's party won't achieve the changes the people desire.

There is no other solution than the street, because they closed all the political solutions,” he said.

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