

Military Resistance 11H23



Graphic: Black Agenda Report

**Obama Promises Syria Strike Will
Have No Objective:
“Our Goal Will Not Be To Effect
Régime Change, Or Alter The
Balance Of Power In Syria, Or Bring
The Civil War There To An End”
“This Is Consistent With U.S. Foreign
Policy Of The Past”**

[Supposedly a satire, in fact the truth. T]

August 29, 2013 by Andy Borowitz, The Borowitz Report

WASHINGTON — Attempting to quell criticism of his proposal for a limited military mission in Syria, President Obama floated a more modest strategy today, saying that any U.S. action in Syria would have “no objective whatsoever.”

“Let me be clear,” he said in an interview on CNN.

“Our goal will not be to effect régime change, or alter the balance of power in Syria, or bring the civil war there to an end. We will simply do something random there for one or two days and then leave.”

“I want to reassure our allies and the people of Syria that what we are about to undertake, if we undertake it at all, will have no purpose or goal,” he said.

“This is consistent with U.S. foreign policy of the past.”

While Mr. Obama clearly hoped that his proposal of a brief and pointless intervention in Syria would reassure the international community, it immediately drew howls of protest from U.S. allies, who argued that two days was too open-ended a timeframe for such a mission.

That criticism led White House spokesman Jay Carney to brief reporters later in the day, arguing that the President was willing to scale down the U.S. mission to “twenty-four hours, thirty-six tops.”

“It may take twenty-four hours, but it could also take twelve,” Mr. Carney said.

“Maybe we get in there, take a look around, and get out right away. But however long it takes, one thing will not change: this mission will have no point. The President is resolute about that.”

MORE:

Syria: Comment: T

Assad Regime: A loathsome collection of greedy, predatory mass murderers who rule by terror and dictatorship. The sooner Assad and his government are wiped off the face of the earth, the better for all of us. One less collection of oppressors to contend with.

Obama Regime: Has no wish to remove the Assad regime and has publicly made that clear over and over again. It fears the revolutionary forces fighting Assad will defy the Empire if they win power. Their stated goal is the Assad regime continuing to hold state power without Assad.

Reality: A U.S. attack on Syria helps the Assad regime gather support.

It will gather support inside Syria. It will link the armed resistance to an attack by the most militarily powerful Imperial power in the world. It will portray the resistance as traitors and call on all to stand together with Assad against the foreign enemy.

The U.S. Imperial government has no interest beyond projecting economic and political power, however stupidly the Empire does so in reality.

Some outside Syria who see that will act as dishonorable cheerleaders for the mass murderer Assad and the Russian Imperial government that stands behind him.

More will see that the Assad regime is one of the most corrupt, murderous, reactionary collections of blood soaked tyrants on the face of the earth, and reject the disgusting apologists for that regime.

Those forces are honorably and implacably organizing to oppose an Obama regime military strike on Syria, and, at the same time, wholeheartedly supporting the Syrian revolution against the tyrant Assad.

It is possible to walk and chew gum and the same time.

MORE:

Kautsky On The Obama Regime And The Syria Crisis

Nothing has more revolutionary effect, and nothing undermines more the foundations of all state power, than the continuation of that wretched and brainless régime, which has the strength merely to cling to its positions but no longer the slightest power to rule or to steer the state ship on a definite course.

-- Karl Kautsky; 'The Consequences of the Japanese Victory and Social Democracy'

MORE:

“It Is Possible To Be Against Further Intervention, And At The Same Time Not Be Against Those Who Desperately Seek A Syria Without This Deadly Dictatorship”

“It Is A Lamentable Disgrace That Sections Of The Left Have Abandoned Syria And Those Seeking Democracy To

A Deadly Dictatorship Which They Deem To Be A Lesser Evil”

26 August 2013 by Martin Pravda, <http://internationalsocialistnetwork.org> [Excerpts]

On the same day as it was announced that the ousted Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak will be released from prison following the massacres of hundreds of supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood, reports circulated that the Syrian regime under the dictatorship of Bashar Al Assad had embarked on a chemical attack on its population.

Disturbing footage quickly emerged of hundreds of dead and dying people in the opposition-controlled area of Ghouta just outside of Damascus. Images of some of the bodies showed skin turning yellow with visible white foaming at the mouth proving the reports to be accurate.

As the hours went on it emerged that over a thousand people had died as a result of being gassed.

This was immediately broadcast across Western media outlets as international pressure once again built up against the regime.

These two abhorrent attacks in neighbouring Arab nations may appear to have different geopolitical significance if you focus on the relationship the perpetrating regimes have with the West, particularly the US.

While both massacres have been internationally condemned by world leaders, the situation in Syria has provoked further discussions about the possibility for Western intervention, whereas the Egyptian massacres have seen no such calls.

For Syria, the prospect of further intervention is something they are very used to.

The Assad regime could well have been toppled by the mass popular uprising long ago had it not been propped up by Russian arms.

This is backed up with unconditional political support, and it was no surprise when immediately after the attack a Russian official was quoted as saying the massacre in Ghouta was a “planned provocation” by the opposition.

As with the destruction we have already seen, the ramifications of global superpowers throwing further fuel onto the fires of the current humanitarian tragedy in Syria is likely to be disastrous.

The tragedy of Syria has been spawned out of decades of colonial rule, followed by competing imperialist powers arming and funding both an oppressive and undemocratic regime and regional powers who are hostile to it.

The only truly peaceful solution for Syria is one where such intervention and exploitation from forces outside are removed entirely. In this context it would seem that there is a very clear and obvious position for the left internationally to take, and this has not really

changed since the initial uprisings against the regime: we should stand against all global powers who wish to intervene, escalate or benefit from this crisis, including those who are already intervening and propping up the current regime.

This of course should go hand in hand with offering solidarity with those who are seeking real democracy, who are opposed to and are under attack by their callous dictatorship.

On the surface this seems to be a principled perspective which the left should have no problem finding agreement on, yet sadly this is where a lot have got it so abominably wrong.

This was seen to be the case early on in the uprising for some influential figures in the anti-war movement.

This essentially led to a bleak situation where leading figures on the left simply wouldn't comment on Syria except when there was a perceived threat of Western intervention.

A heavily armed and funded dictator went on massacring a popular revolt, and all the horrors which attach themselves to armed conflict amounted, and many on the left simply remained silent.

It is of course true that the US has a strong grip over the region as a whole, particularly through its economic ties with the Gulf States, and notably Saudi Arabia.

Of course it is right to be wary of the US's and their allies' global power, but it is also important to consider how uncoordinated they have at times been in their approach and how this highlights possible weaknesses.

The gas attacks on Ghouta and the massacres which came before this have given us a glimpse of Assad's strategy to assert his control.

I don't see how any serious analysis can claim that Assad's crushing of the opposition would be beneficial for Syrians in either the present or the future, and the assertion that his overthrow would simply signify a strengthening of imperialism is a crude dismissal of the complexities which exist within and around Syria.

Of course it is important also to recognise that human rights abuses are being committed by some in the name of the opposition to the regime as well.

As soon as the uprising turned into a civil war, there were always likely to be atrocities committed by those who claim to represent both sides.

Importantly though, unlike the violence conducted by the regime, this sectarianism is not at all a consistent feature amongst all those who have stood in opposition.

One year on, the anti-anti-Assad position continues to be pushed by large sections of the anti-war left.

To anyone drawn to socialist politics through a desire to challenge inhumanity, one can only imagine what effect this abandonment of solidarity – for those forced to experience the atrocities in Ghouta – is going to have.

It is a lamentable disgrace that sections of the left have abandoned Syria and those seeking democracy to a deadly dictatorship which they deem to be a lesser evil.

Ironically you can see the influence of an age where the ideologies of imperialism have seeped into everyday thinking, on those 'anti-war' activists who think Syrians do not have the right to overthrow their own regime.

The response to this article from those who continue to attack the anti-anti-Assad position will no doubt stress that there is now a very real threat of Western intervention, and that in this context to criticise the regime for human rights abuses is unhelpful.

To this I point out that it is possible to be against further intervention, and at the same time not be against those who desperately seek a Syria without this deadly dictatorship.

Military Resistance In PDF Format?

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

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Foreign Occupation “Servicemember” Killed Somewhere Or Other In Afghanistan: Nationality Not Announced

August 28, 2013 Reuters

A foreign servicemember died following an attack by enemy forces in western Afghanistan today.

U.S. Soldier Killed By Attack On A Joint U.S.-Afghan Military Base: “At Least 10 Polish Soldiers Wounded”



Smoke rises from the site of a bomb attack on a base operated by Polish and Afghan forces in Ghazni province, Afghanistan, Aug. 28, 2013.

August 28, 2013 By NATHAN HODGE and HABIB KHAN TOTAKHI, Wall Street Journal & By Mark Magnier, Los Angeles Times & VOA News & August 29, 2013 AFP

KABUL—The Taliban claimed responsibility for a coordinated assault on a U.S. and coalition base and an Afghan government compound in eastern Afghanistan Wednesday that killed a U.S. service member and four police.

Authorities say at least 10 Polish soldiers were wounded in the attack in the eastern province of Ghazni.

Two car bombs detonated around 4 p.m. outside the blast walls of a joint U.S.-Polish base in Ghazni province, southwest of Kabul. Asadullah Khan Insafi, the deputy police chief of Ghazni, said the blasts were followed by heavy gunfire.

At that point, four or more Taliban gunmen started firing at the base with rocket-propelled grenade launchers and machine guns. Some insurgents managed to enter the base. About ten insurgents attacked.

A fuel tanker inside the base caught fire.

Afghan and U.S. officials said another car bomb was thwarted by Afghan troops on the scene.

Attackers managed to get inside the base, but were killed in the ensuing gunfight with foreign troops. Afghan police said a third device was later blown up by an explosive-ordnance disposal team.

Separately, Mr. Insafi said, two bombers tried to enter a neighboring base belonging to the government-run Afghan Public Protection Force, which protects military convoys

along the crucial highway to the capital. Those attackers were gunned down by Afghan army and police, he added.

According to eyewitnesses, the initial blast shattered windows of surrounding houses. The gunbattle continued for at least an hour.

Saifullah Ibrahimi, a spokesman for the Ghazni governor's office, said the attackers had targeted the Provincial Reconstruction Team base run by U.S. and Polish forces. According to him, a bomber detonated a bomb in front of the base's main gate, and then four or five other insurgents tried to enter from another side of compound.

Zabiullah Mujahid, a Taliban spokesman, said the bases had been attacked by several bombers. He said the car bomb allowed a second wave of bombers to infiltrate a base and attack their targets.

In a statement emailed to journalists, the Taliban said its attackers destroyed the main gate of the Ghazni base and a nearby checkpoint, killing and wounding a "large number" of foreign troops and "puppet Afghan forces."

Nadar Khan Gareewal, a member of the Ghazni provincial council, said gunfire continued until late Wednesday afternoon, with U.S. helicopters circling overhead.

Baz Mohammad Hemat, the director of the provincial hospital, said his hospital had received six dead: four members of the Afghan Public Protection Force and two civilians. Dr. Hemat said 34 civilians had been wounded, including 12 children and two women.

New York City Soldier Michael Ollis, 24, Killed By Afghan Rebels



[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

August 30, 2013 By Ginger Adams Otis / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

A 24-year-old Army officer from Staten Island was killed in Afghanistan on Wednesday by insurgents who attacked his unit, military officials said.

Army Staff Sgt. Michael Ollis died in Ghani Province, where he was serving as an infantryman.

Ollis, who joined the Army in August 2006, had also served in Iraq and done a prior tour in Afghanistan.

He was deployed for his second stint in January, officials said.

Ollis was part of the 10th Mountain Division's 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team based at Fort Drum in Northern New York.

His father and grandfather were both in the Army, and Ollis was determined to carry on the family tradition, friends said.

In 2009, while home from his first Afghan tour, Ollis attended a medal ceremony for his dad.

The elder Ollis was awarded a belated Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam.

Ollis is survived by his parents, Robert and Linda.

Mayor Bloomberg sent his condolences Friday to the grieving Staten Island family. "We are mourning the loss of a New Yorker who volunteered to put himself in harm's way to protect the freedoms we all enjoy," Bloomberg said.

Ollis was stationed in Fort Campbell, Ky., and Germany before he was sent to upstate New York.

The 24-year-old enlisted straight out of high school, but found time in 2005 to volunteer as a soccer coach at the Parks Department Summer Soccer Program at Corporal Thompson Park.

Since 9/11, there have been 92 New Yorkers killed while serving in the military, Bloomberg said.

**POLITICIANS REFUSE TO HALT THE
BLOODSHED**

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

Car Bomber Hits American Military Convoy In Lashkar Gah



Disabled U.S. armored personnel carrier after Lashkar Gah. (Watan Yar / European Pressphoto Agency / August 28, 2013)

August 28, 2013 By Mark Magnier, Los Angeles Times

Wednesday a bomber in a Toyota Corolla rammed his vehicle into an American military convoy in Lashkar Gah, the capital of southern Helmand province, killing four Afghans and wounding 15 other people, said Omar Zowak, spokesman for the governor of Helmand.

There were no foreign military fatalities in that attack, apparently an opportunistic strike in a residential area as the convoy passed by. Photographs showed a building reduced to sticks, bricks and dust near a disabled U.S. armored personnel carrier, its rear tires blown off and its body jammed against an electric pole.

Nationwide Resistance Action: Taliban Ambush Kills 15 Police;

“Another Taliban Strike On Highway One In Farah Killed Four Drivers And Set Ablaze 40 Trucks Carrying Foreign Military Fuel Supplies”

August 29, 2013 AFP

HERAT – Taliban insurgents have killed 15 police on a key highway in western Afghanistan, officials said Thursday.

“Highway One” is Afghanistan’s main national road, connecting the cities of Kabul, Kandahar, Herat and Mazar-i-Sharif, but it has been a constant target of insurgent attacks, kidnappings and looting.

“A convoy of police who went to inspect a highway patrol unit were caught in a Taliban ambush on Wednesday,” Farah province spokesman Abdul Rahman Zhuwandi told AFP.

“There was fighting between them in which 15 national police were killed and 10 wounded, while several Taliban were also killed.”

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack shortly before dusk in Farah province’s ethnically Pashtun district of Bakwa.

Separately, authorities say six Afghan drivers were killed and 10 others wounded in western Farah province, when rocket fire hit fuel trucks supplying foreign military forces. The inferno destroyed 40 trucks. The Taliban also claimed responsibility for that attack.

Foreign military forces rely heavily on fuel transported from Pakistan, an easy target for militants hoping to cripple this essential supply route

August 30, 2013 By AP & By Mustafa Andalib, Reuters

A police spokesman says the death toll in a bombing in northern Afghanistan has reached eight, including an Afghan official who was the apparent target.

Police spokesman Sayed Sarwar Hussaini said another 11 people were wounded in Friday morning’s attack in the Dashi Archi district of Kunduz province. The casualties included civilians.

The attack underscored the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan as US-led foreign forces reduce their presence.

In Helmand, the governor's office said a bomber rammed a car into an Afghan army base, killing three soldiers and wounding four in the Nad Ali district, officials said.

Aug. 27, 2013 WNA

Four engineers and two ordinary workers of the National Solidarity Program (NSP) who had been abducted by armed men were founded shot dead in western province of Herat, an officials said Tuesday.

Related to the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Rural Development (MRRD), the NSP personnel were captured last day and found dead early this morning in Gulran district, said police spokesman, Abdul Rauf Ahmadi.

The security forces took the dead bodies to the provincial capital and handed over to their households, said the spokesman adding the men had traveled to their working site with no consultation with the security officials.

The dead included four engineers and two workers of the NSP, deputy provincial director of rehabilitation and rural development, said Mohammad Qasem Ayubi who expressed concern over the growing insurgents' attacks on the government employees.

He warned such attacks if not prevented would delay work on the uplift projects in the province.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the incident and said their fighters have killed the staffs.

Aug. 27, 2013 WNA

HERAT CITY

A national police personnel was killed and another wounded in Torghundi port, western province of Herat, while three border guards were killed and another wounded in the same province's Islam Qala port, an official said Tuesday.

Provincial police chief, Abdul Rauf Ahmadi confirmed in a telephone contact with Wakht News Agency that the Taliban attacked the forces convoy patrolling an area in Torghundi port killing one cop and wounding another, while in elsewhere in Islam Qala port three Afghan border guards were killed and another wounded when their ranger-type track attacked by the rebels last night.

No one had been still detained for the accusation, but the security forces registered the case and launched investigation to find the perpetrators.

MILITARY NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WAR?



An Army carry team moves a transfer case containing the remains of Sgt. Stefan M. Smith July 25 at Dover Air Force Base, Del.. Smith was killed when his unit was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan, Steve Ruark / AP

**“Chemical Weapons Have Become
An Important Component Of Mr.
Assad’s Counterinsurgency
Strategy”**

**“It Is A Weapon Of Terror Used In
These Circumstances To Deprive The
Fighters Of Support”**

**“By Hitting One Community Hard With
Poison Gas, The Regime’s Goal Is To**

Convince Other Communities In The Country That Their Survival Hinges On Keeping Keep Insurgents Out Of Their Areas”

August 28, 2013 By MARGARET COKER, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

Syria’s alleged use of chemical weapons last week may have come as a military maneuver to soften up the area at the start of a planned military offensive against the rebels’ remaining stronghold around Damascus, say military experts who have studied the country’s civil war.

Over the past several months, the Syrian armed forces, which have been bolstered by Iranian military advisers and special shock troops sent by the Lebanese militia Hezbollah, have clawed back control of many of the suburbs around the capital from rebels.

Eastern Ghouta, to the east of the capital, was the remaining district that wasn’t under partial or total government control, despite the heavy bombardment and shelling by Syrian forces for several weeks.

Trying to break the stalemate, Syrian forces launched “Operation City Shield” to reclaim the area.

[A] senior Arab diplomat close to the opposition said Mr. Assad may have felt the need to make quick gains in the suburbs of Damascus because of concerns that the opposition was making inroads there with aid from Saudi Arabia, whose stated goal has been to build up rebel forces in those same areas around the capital.

Chemical weapons might have been a trick to lure panicked rebels back from their front-line positions in the area to check on or rescue their families farther back from the fighting but in the range of the toxins, the military analysts said.

“While the use of chemical weapons remains unconfirmed, (the most likely) scenario that could have led their deployment...involves a formal order by senior ranks in the Syrian military to achieve rapid military gains around the capital,” said Ayham Kamel, a Syria analyst for the Eurasia Group, a think tank based in New York.

A former senior Obama administration official said chemical weapons have become an important component of Mr. Assad’s counterinsurgency strategy, used to convince communities that they will pay an unbearably high price for providing any support to the opposition.

“It is a weapon of terror used in these circumstances to deprive the fighters of support,” the former Obama administration official said.

By hitting one community hard with poison gas, the regime's goal is to convince other communities in the country that their survival hinges on keeping keep insurgents out of their areas to avoid a similar fate, the former administration official said.

The former official said, however, that Mr. Assad appears to have misjudged President Barack Obama's intentions based on the fact that the U.S. didn't respond militarily to previous instances of chemical-weapons use.

"He (Mr. Assad) failed to understand he was given a pass the first time, but that the cumulative use of chemical weapons would make the use of force imperative," the official said.

"He thought he had a permanent pass."

"Rebel Forces Take Control Of Strategic Town In Northern Syria Cutting Off Government Forces' Only Supply Route Out Of The City Of Aleppo"



A Free Syrian Army fighter stands near a damaged military tank that belonged to the forces loyal to Syria's Al-Assad after they seized it, in Aleppo's town of Khanasir August 29, 2013. Rebel forces took control of a strategic town in northern Syria on Monday, killing more than 50 pro-government fighters and cutting off government forces' only supply route out of the city of Aleppo, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. REUTERS/Molhem Barakat

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.”

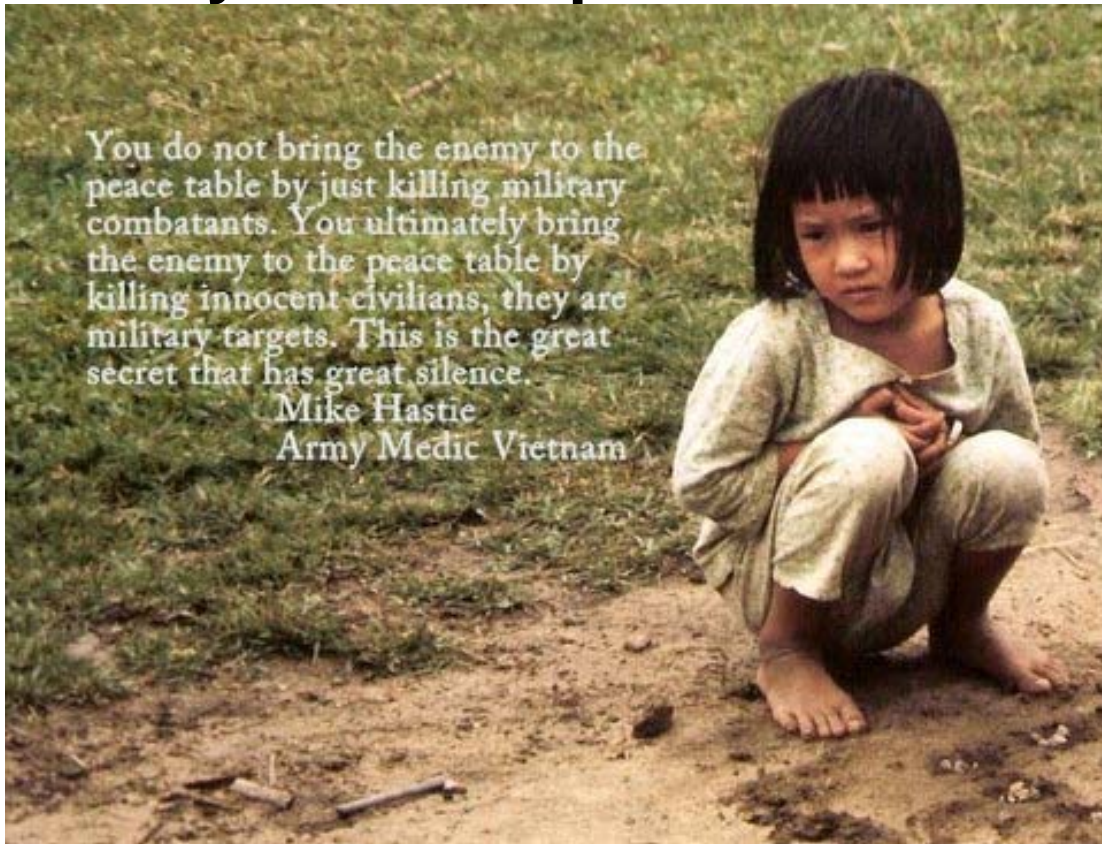
Frederick Douglass, 1852

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

Always Cover Up The Madness



An Khe, Vietnam: Photo by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance Newsletter
Sent: August 30, 2013
Subject: Always Cover Up The Madness

Always Cover Up The Madness

The United States Government did not have concentration camps in Iraq. The Pentagon did not need them. They just killed 500,000 Iraqi children. That's how you bring the enemy to the peace table. You just do the unbelievable. Mike Hastie Army Medic Vietnam August 30, 2013

A U.S. Senate study acknowledged that by 1968, an estimated 300,000 Vietnamese

civilians had been killed or wounded in
free-fire zones.
Nick Turse
Kill Anything That Moves

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

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

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

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

**Zionist Settler Terror Mob Attacks
Palestinian Kids, Woman And
Paralyzed Man:
20-30 Settlers Attacked Him “And
Then They Attacked Me Using Sticks
And Iron Chains As Well As
Randomly Spraying Us With Gas”**

“They Also Attacked Me And My Paralyzed Husband Using Their Belts On Our Bodies”



August 20, 2013 SILWANIC

Silwan, Occupied Jerusalem

Sub Laban family members were injured with bruises and wounds after being attacked by dozens of settlers while being near their home in Al-Qirmi neighborhood in the old city of Jerusalem.

Amal Sub Laban (Um Louai) explained to Wadi Hilweh Information Center what happened with the family saying: “while I was on my way home in Al-Qirmi neighborhood along with some family members, one settler who follows my son Adam on a daily basis was staring at us and suddenly he disappeared.

“We kept on walking, and while I was helping my husband walk since he is paralyzed as a result of a stroke and we were only a few meters away from our home, I heard my son Adam screaming.

“I rushed to him only to find 20-30 settlers attacking him and then they attacked me using sticks and iron chains as well as randomly spraying us with gas. My son Louai heard us scream and upon his arrival, the settlers surrounded him and attacked him as well.”

She added: “I tried to scream and get them to move away from my sons Louai and Oday, but I did not succeed especially that they sprayed me with a good amount of gas on my eyes and from a close distance; they also attacked me and my paralyzed husband using their belts on our bodies.”

She explained that she tried to appeal for a group of Jews and the synagogue security next to her house to call the police, noting that the police arrived and moved the settlers away.

Ambulances arrived at the scene as well and all family members were transferred to Hadassah Ein Kerem and Shaare Zedek hospitals for treatment as they were all injured with bruises, wounds and burns; Oday had 4 stitches in his head.

She also explained that a group of settlers attacked Oday the next morning and the police detained him for a few hours at Al-Maskobyeh and was then released on condition of house arrest for 5 days.

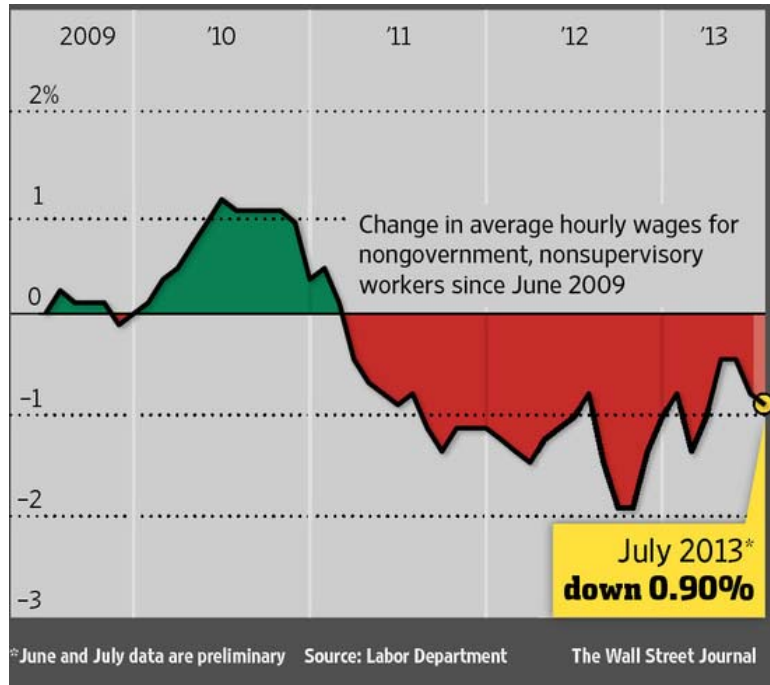
Um Louai mentioned that she suffers on a daily basis from settlers attacks on the people that live by her house in the synagogue.

[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.”]

CLASS WAR REPORTS

**Falling U.S. Workers’ Pay Isn’t Even
Keeping Up With Inflation:
“The Average Hourly Pay For A
Nongovernment, Non-Supervisory
Worker, Adjusted For Price Increases,**

Declined To \$8.77 Last Month From \$8.85 At The End Of The Recession In June 2009”



August 25, 2013 By NEIL SHAH, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

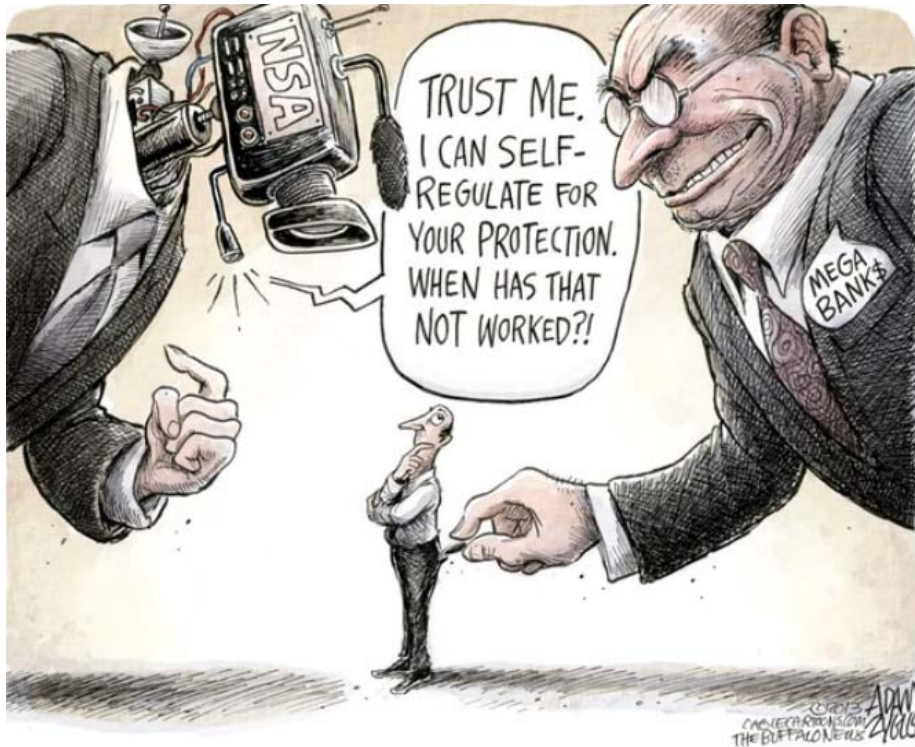
Americans are spending enough to keep the economy rolling, but don't expect them to splurge unless their paychecks start to grow.

Four years into the economic recovery, U.S. workers' pay still isn't even keeping up with inflation.

The average hourly pay for a nongovernment, non-supervisory worker, adjusted for price increases, declined to \$8.77 last month from \$8.85 at the end of the recession in June 2009, Labor Department data show.

Besides not feeling confident enough to demand higher wages, employees also are wary of going out and looking for better jobs. Only 1.6% of employed Americans quit their jobs in June, below the roughly 2%-2.2% prerecession level. People tend to quit jobs more readily when they are confident they will find a new one that's equal or better.

All told, Patrick Newport, an economist at IHS Global Insight, expects real wage growth of only 1% by the end of 2014. That is "good news for employers," he said, "not-so-good news for workers."



Tens Of Thousands March In Bogota In Support Of Farmers' Strike:
Workers And Students March In Support;
“45,000 Farmers, Coffee Growers And Truck Drivers Have Blocked Highways And Battled Riot Police Since Last Week”

“President Santos Is For The Rich People, Not The Rural Farmers, The Working Class”



Student demonstrators throw stones at riot policemen during a protest against the government of President Juan Manuel Santos in Bogota August 29, 2013. Thousands of Colombian farmers and state workers marched through the streets of Bogota on Thursday, converging on the capital after 11 days of increasingly violent national protests against agricultural and trade policies they say have left them impoverished. Santos, who has been unable to end the so-called national strike that has united potato growers and milk producers with teachers and health workers, acknowledged agriculture is in crisis but called for peaceful dissent while talks about possible solutions are going on. REUTERS/Jose Miguel Gomez

[Thanks to Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance Organization, who sent this in.]

August 30, 2013 Al Jazeera & August 29, 2013 By DARCY CROWE and DAN MOLINSKI, Wall Street Journal [Excerpts]

About 30,000 people marched in the Colombian capital, Bogota, Thursday to support a strike by small farmers who are protesting the government’s agricultural policies, which they say are driving them into bankruptcy.

A collection of small farmers, college students, teachers, health workers, truck drivers and opposition groups paralyzed large parts of the metropolis of eight million inhabitants, blocking vital roads and halting Bogotá’s notoriously heavy traffic in some parts of the city.

On one of the city's main avenues, protesters tore bricks from the street to throw at anti-riot police who responded with water cannons blasting from armored trucks.

Police also fired tear gas into the crowd, which included demonstrators who said they were as young as 10.

Dozens of store windows were smashed in Bogota's historic downtown district.

Demonstrators chanted, "Long live the farmers' strike." Some clashed with riot police, who responded with tear gas to disperse them.

Rosalba Gómez, a 62-year-old teacher from Bogotá, said she joined the march to support the farmers and protest against Mr. Santos.

"President Santos is for the rich people, not the rural farmers, the working class," she said, wearing a woolen poncho that has become symbol of the protests by the poor farmers.

Shortly after the demonstrations kicked off on Aug. 17, Mr. Santos denied the country was facing a national strike, feeding the notion, protesters say, that his background as the scion of a wealthy media dynasty and decades as a powerful political player have made him indifferent to the problems faced by poor farmers.

"This country has violence, high taxes on gasoline, corrupt politicians, many people who are displaced, and we have put up with all of it for a long time, but today we have gotten to the point where we are saying 'no more,'" said Andres Gómez, a 21-year-old university student studying journalism.

President Juan Manuel Santos said the estimated 45,000 farmers, coffee growers and truck drivers who have blocked highways and battled riot police since last week had justified complaints resulting from years of government neglect. He announced corrective measures including the removal of import tariffs on some fertilizers, but he did not say when they would take effect.

The farmers have demanded lower fertilizer prices, and have complained of being undercut by cheap imports of products including potatoes, onions and milk.

They say their sector is being hurt by free trade and other agreements promoted by the government.

Poor farmers are complaining that a decline in prices for their crops, and cheaper imports from abroad—some of which have started to come into the country under a trade deal with the U.S.—are putting them out of work.

When the free-trade deal with the U.S. came into effect in May 2012, Mr. Santos hailed it as a major achievement for the country, but a year later it appears that Colombia is struggling to take advantage of the pact while U.S. exports to Colombia have surged.

In the first six months of the year, U.S. exports to Colombia rose 15.6% from a year earlier while Colombian sales to the U.S. dropped 13.1%.

At least two people have been killed in the protests and at least 175 arrested, according to human rights groups, which have accused police of brutality.

The government has reported 72 road blockades being removed across the country during the strike, and at least 29 vehicles destroyed.

By Thursday, relative calm was reported in the countryside.

Santos, an economist and former defense and foreign trade minister, has been buffeted by protests since taking office in August 2010.

University students took to the streets the following year to demand reforms.

Truck drivers have protested high gasoline prices, and indigenous groups have demanded that security forces and guerrillas quit their territory. This year, coca growers have blocked highways in a turbulent northeastern region to demand an end to aerial spraying with herbicides.

“While in Brazil it was the middle class, these protests originate in the farming sector, which does generate solidarity (from other) sectors who feel neglected,” she said.

Those include university students, some of whom marched Thursday in the woolen ponchos typically worn by highlands farmers.

The students are demanding that the government pay off a \$5.7 billion higher education deficit that has accumulated over more than two decades.

For safety reasons, Bogota’s city government suspended classes Thursday for public school students.

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