

Military Resistance 13F8

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Military Resistance Newsletter Publication Resumes July 8

Travel between June 30 and July 8. T

POLICE WAR REPORTS

**Stupid Enemy Combatants Attack
Blind Man, Then Lie About It, As
Usual:
“Police Claimed They Thought Wilson’s
Clock, Which Reads Him The Time Out
Loud, Was A Gun”**

June 11, 2015 By Matt Agorist, The Free Thought Project

Eric Wilson was on his way home from his job at Lighthouse for the Blind when he was stopped by two Little Rock Police officers alleging he “fit the description” of a suspect.

The LRPD police department claim they received a call about someone fitting Wilson’s description who was running away from or chasing someone and who appeared to be afraid.

“I had just got off of work,” said Wilson who then missed his bus and began to walk home. That’s when he was approached by Little Rock’s finest.

“Hey, come over here and talk to me,” the officer can be heard saying on dash camera video.

Because Wilson is blind, he had no idea who was calling him, or what they wanted. He began to get worried.

“I could have possibly been getting robbed,” Wilson said. “I didn’t know what was about to happen.”

Despite being afraid, Wilson complied with the officers, but it didn’t matter.

One of the officers jumped on his back and slammed him to the ground. According to the police report, the officers feared for their safety while they were harassing the innocent blind man.

In their report, an officer said Wilson “pulled away violently causing me to lose grip,” and that he was “afraid that Wilson would strike myself or my partner with the handcuff.”

However, the video doesn’t show Wilson posing a threat to officers at all.

“When they tell him to ‘come over here,’ he walked towards them,” Reggie Koch, Wilson’s attorney said.

“When they tell him ‘take your hands out of your pockets,’ he takes his hands out of his pockets. What more do they want?”

Police also claimed they thought Wilson’s clock, which reads him the time out loud, was a gun.

“Why would I get thrown to the ground?” Wilson asked. “If anything (the officers) should have been trying to help me.”

After his attack, Wilson went to the hospital to be treated for his injuries. He was diagnosed with a strained lumbar. He’s since filed a formal complaint against the LRPD.

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

He is whipped oftenest, who is whipped easiest.
-- Frederick Douglass; My Bondage And My Freedom

Fort Ho Chi Minh Opens, Hosts Reactivated 23rd Americal Division

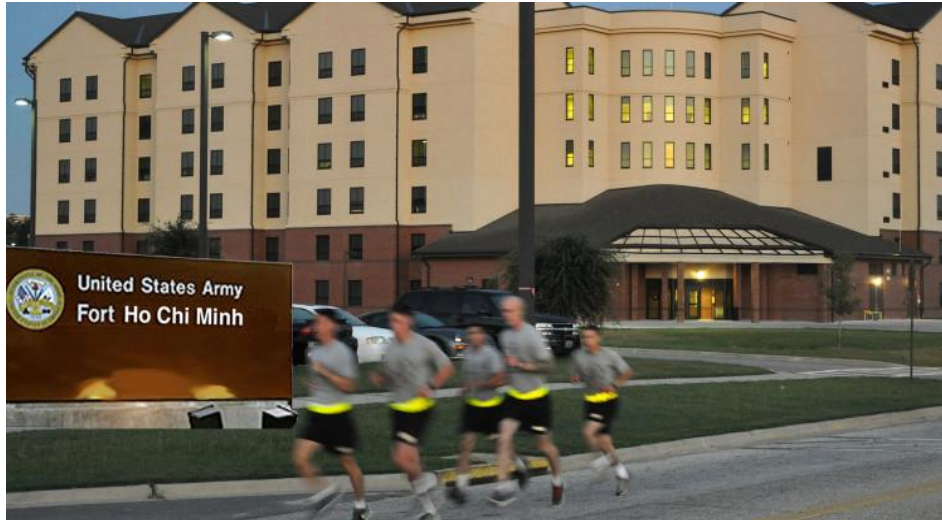


Photo credit: Duffel Blog/US Army Engineers

June 28, 2015 by Maxx Butthurt, The Duffel Blog

THE PENTAGON —

A Department of Defense spokesman announced this week that the Army will be reactivating the 23rd Americal Division, most famous for its role in the Vietnam War. The division will be stationed at Fort Ho Chi Minh, currently under construction near Jackson, Miss.

The 23rd will be the second reactivated division in recent years, after the 7th ID at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash.

The name of the post has sparked some controversy with Vietnam veterans and those who lost loved ones during that conflict, however Pentagon officials pointed out that the name follows the time-honored Army tradition of naming its military installations after enemies of the nation.

Fort Ho Chi Minh will join such installations as Forts Lee, Stewart, Benning, Hood, Bliss, Polk, Bragg, and A.P. Hill, all of which bear the names of soldiers responsible for the deaths of thousands of American fighting men and women in attacks on the United States.

Sources confirmed that at the ground-breaking of the new installation, many veterans and relatives of those who fought in the storied unit were on hand for the ceremony, including retired 2nd Lt. William Calley, famous for achieving the most confirmed kills of any Army officer in Vietnam, and Trương Tấn Sang, President of Viet Nam.

General William Westmoreland could not be reached for comment.

At the conclusion of the press conference Pentagon officials announced the proposed construction of several additional installations, pending release of funds from Congress. Naval Station Karl Doenitz, Hermann Goering Air Force Base, and the new Alger Hiss NSA Cryptology Center.

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Mutiny On The Amistad: July 2, 1839

**“53 Slaves Recently Abducted From
Africa, Revolted”**





Peace History June 26-July 2 By Carl Bunin [Excerpt] Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc.

(July 2, 1839)

Amistad Mutiny: slave rebellion that took place on the slave ship Amistad near the coast of Cuba and had important political and legal repercussions in the American Abolitionist movement.

The mutineers were captured and tried in the United States, and a surprising victory for the country's antislavery forces resulted in 1841 when the U.S. Supreme Court freed the rebels. A committee formed to defend the slaves later developed into the American Missionary Association (incorporated 1846).

On July 2, 1839, the Spanish schooner Amistad was sailing from Havana to Puerto Príncipe, Cuba, when the ship's unwilling passengers, 53 slaves recently abducted from Africa, revolted.

Led by Joseph Cinqué, they killed the captain and the cook but spared the life of a Spanish navigator, so that he could sail them home to Sierra Leone.

The navigator managed instead to sail the Amistad generally northward. Two months later the U.S. Navy seized the ship off Long Island, N.Y., and towed it into New London, Conn. The mutineers were held in a jail in New Haven, Conn., a state in which slavery was legal.

The Spanish embassy's demand for the return of the Africans to Cuba led to an 1840 trial in a Hartford, Conn., federal court. New England Abolitionist Lewis Tappan stirred

public sympathy for the African captives, while the U.S. government took the proslavery side. U.S.

President Martin Van Buren ordered a Navy ship sent to Connecticut to return the Africans to Cuba immediately after the trial. A candidate for reelection that year, he anticipated a ruling against the defendants and hoped to gain proslavery votes by removing the Africans before Abolitionists could appeal to a higher court.

Prosecutors argued that, as slaves, the mutineers were subject to the laws governing conduct between slaves and their masters. But trial testimony determined that while slavery was legal in Cuba, importation of slaves from Africa was not.

Therefore, the judge ruled, rather than being merchandise, the Africans were victims of kidnapping and had the right to escape their captors in any way they could.

When the U.S. government appealed the case before the U.S. Supreme Court the next year, congressman and former president John Quincy Adams argued eloquently for the Amistad rebels.

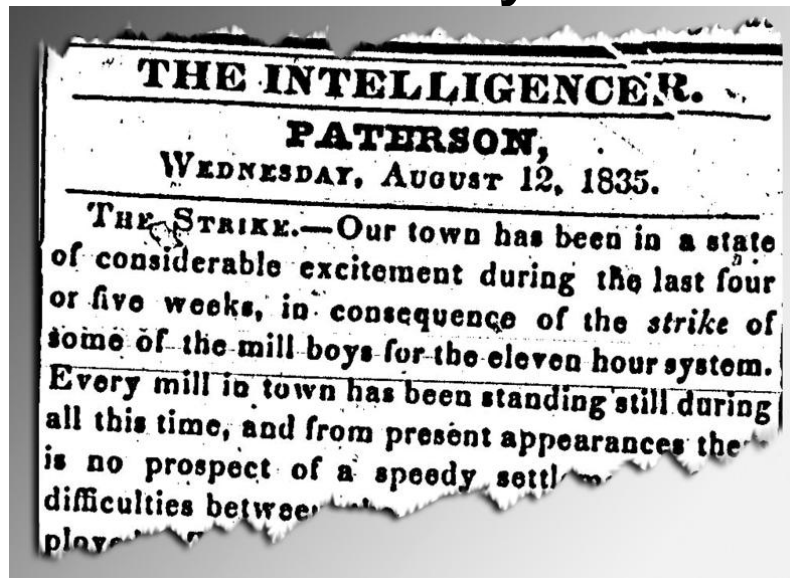
The Supreme Court upheld the lower court, and private and missionary society donations helped the 35 surviving Africans secure passage home. They arrived in Sierra Leone in January 1842, along with five missionaries and teachers who intended to found a Christian mission.

Spain continued to insist that the United States pay indemnification for the Cuban vessel. The U.S. Congress intermittently debated the Amistad case, without resolution, for more than two decades, until the American Civil War began in 1861.



July 3, 1835: Honorable Anniversary;

Children Go On Strike For An 11-Hour Workday



Carl Bunin Peace History June 29 - July 5

Progressivehistorians.com:

On July 3, 1835, in Paterson, New Jersey, nearly 2,000 textile workers walked off the job.

The strike was notable for several reasons.

For one thing the strikers weren't demanding more money, despite the fact that they only made \$2 a week (adjusted for inflation, that would be \$44 a week today).

Their central demand was an 11-hour day (as opposed to the 13.5-hour days they were currently working), and only 9 hours on Saturday instead of a full day.

That in itself was significant enough. The first strike in American history to limit hours had happened only 7 years earlier, and was also in Paterson, New Jersey. That strike had been crushed after a week when the militia was called in.

What made this strike worth remembering was who the strikers were - they were children, aged 10 to 18. Many of them girls.

Before the month was out the parents of Paterson had joined together to form the "Paterson Association for the Protection of the Working Classes of Paterson". Through the Association a "vigilance committee" was formed to organize support. In 1835 there was no such thing as a labor union. Back then there were only guilds for skilled workers. Nothing like that existed for textile workers, much less for children.

The management flat-out refused to negotiate with the Association, or any worker's organization. In response, the Association appealed to help from other workers. Women textile workers in other mills around Paterson walked out. Mechanics from Newark set up a committee to raise funds and investigate the working conditions in Paterson. This is what they found:

“(conditions in the Paterson mills) belong rather to the dark ages than to the present times, and would be more congenial to the climate of his majesty the emperor and autocrat of all the Russians, than “this land of the free and home of the brave,” this boasted asylum for the oppressed of all nations.”

After six weeks a deal was struck between the Association and the management. They would split the difference: the children of Paterson would only have to work 12 hours a day during the week, and 9 hours on Saturday; a 69-hour week. The children who continued to hold out for the 11-hour day were fired and blacklisted.

YOUR INVITATION:

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.

**July 6, 1892 -- Heroic Anniversary:
“What Happened At Homestead Was
Not A Riot. It Was Organised Class
Violence, Consciously Controlled By
The Workers, As Part Of The
Struggle”**

**“A Militant Strike Of Steel Workers Of
The Carnegie Company In The U.S.
Defending Their Union Against The
Bosses, The Police And Hired Armed
Mercenaries”**



Defeated Pinkerton agents, escorted by armed union men, leaving their barges after surrendering. Harper's Weekly: 1892

Carl Bunin Peace History July 5-11

In one of the worst cases of violent union-busting, a fierce battle broke out between the striking employees (members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers) of Andrew Carnegie's Homestead Steel Company and a Pinkerton Detective Agency private army brought on barges down the Monongahela River in the dead of night. Twelve were killed.

Henry C. Frick, general manager of the plant in Homestead, near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, had been given free rein by Carnegie to quash the strike. At Frick's request, Pennsylvania Gov. Robert E. Pattison then sent 8,500 troops to intervene on behalf of the company.

From Libcom.org

An account of a militant strike of steel workers of the Carnegie company in the US defending their union against the bosses, the police and hired armed mercenaries.

The Robber Baron Andrew Carnegie precipitated the Homestead Strike of 1892 with his attack against the standard of living of the workers and his bid to break the union representing the highest skilled workers.

Carnegie announced his intention to impose an 18 percent pay cut and issued a statement saying that the real issue was whether the Homestead steel workers would be union or non-union.

He ordered a 12 foot high fence to be built around the plant – 3 miles in length – with 3 inch holes at shoulder height every 25 feet, signaling preparation for an armed fight with the workers.

At the same time Carnegie hired the notorious Pinkerton company to provide armed thugs for the upcoming struggle.

An ultimatum was issued for workers to accept the wage cut by June 24th or face mass layoffs.

The workers did not take these provocations lightly.

They were not about to abandon the union and submit to Carnegie's dictates without a fight. The Amalgamated Union, which represented the skilled workers, about 750 of the plant's 3,800 employees, established an Advisory Committee, comprised of five delegates from each lodge, to coordinate the struggle against Carnegie's attacks.

A mass meeting of 3,000 workers from all categories, union and non-union voted overwhelmingly to strike.

The Advisory Committee took responsibility for organising an elaborate network to track the company's maneuvers, to monitor the possibility of an anticipated transport of Pinkerton goons by river boat from Pittsburgh.

Workers rented their own vessel to patrol the river. Every road within a five mile radius of Homestead was blockaded, and a thousand strikers patrolled the river banks for ten miles.

The Committee assumed virtual control of the town, assuming authority over the water, gas, and electricity facilities, shutting down the saloons, maintaining order and proclaiming ad hoc laws.

An attempt by the county sheriff to move against the strikers fell flat on its face when he proved unable to raise a posse.

The workers offered the sheriff a tour of the plant and promised to guarantee the security of the facility from any trespassers. Sympathy for the strikers was high.

On July 5th a steam whistle sounded the alarm at 4am.

Two barges transporting more than 300 Pinkertons left Pittsburgh.

By the time the thugs arrived at Homestead, 10,000 armed strikers and their supporters were gathered to “greet” them.

An armed confrontation erupted. Thirty workers were wounded, and three killed in the early fighting. Armed proletarians from nearby towns rushed to the scene to reinforce their class brothers. The shoot-out continued throughout the day.

Finally the demoralized Pinkertons, trapped in debilitating heat on the barges, outnumbered and outgunned, mutinied against their superiors.

Most were not regular agents, but reservists who had been recruited under false pretences; they were prepared to do some bullying, intimidating and terrorizing, but did not have the stomach to confront armed, organised class resistance.

Once the Pinkertons surrendered, the workers debated what to do with their despised prisoners. Angered by the casualties inflicted by the Pinkertons – a total of 40 wounded, 9 killed - some wanted to execute the thugs, but the Committee reasoned that a mass execution would be used against the strikers by the bosses.

Instead the Pinkertons were forced to run a gauntlet. In the end the casualties suffered by the Pinkertons were 20 shot, seven killed and 300 injured running the gauntlet.

In retaliation for the deaths of strikers, a young Russian anarchist called Alexander Berkman attempted to assassinate the Carnegie boss Henry Clay Frick. He shot Frick three times and stabbed him with a poison-tipped dagger, but Frick remarkably survived. Berkman was subsequently imprisoned for 14 years.

The strike continued for four months.

Eventually federal troops were brought in to crush the struggle, and 160 strikers were arrested and charged with murder and assault.

But the bosses’ repressive apparatus could not find a jury anywhere in the Pittsburgh region that would convict a single striker. All were acquitted.

Hugh O’Donnell, one of the strike leaders, was first charged with treason. Following his acquittal on those charges, he was immediately rearrested and tried for murder. And following acquittal on that charge, he was rearrested and tried for assault – again successfully beating back the state’s prosecution.

However, despite beating back the criminal charges, the strike morale was broken, and the union driven out. Throughout the country workers were sympathetic to the struggle at Homestead, and needless to say, the spokesmen of the capitalist class were furious. Strikers were referred to as a “mob.”

The New York Times granted that the company had provoked the battle, nevertheless maintained solidarity with its class brother and insisted that the obligation of the state was “to enforce law and order at Homestead, to quell the mob, to put the property of the Carnegie Steel Company in possession its owners and to protect their lawful rights.”

Despite ending in defeat, Homestead was an important moment in the history of class struggle in America.

What happened at Homestead was not a riot.

It was organised class violence, consciously controlled by the workers, as part of the struggle.

Homestead demonstrated clearly the capacity of workers to organise their struggles, to resist the attacks of the capitalist class, to achieve an active solidarity in struggle, to organise their own power to rival that of the local state apparatus during the struggle, to organise class violence and exercise it judiciously.

July 6, 1944 -- Noble Anniversary: Eleven Years Before Rosa Parks, A Courageous Lady Defies Bus Racism And Wins

Carl Bunin Peace History July 5-11

Irene Morgan, a 28-year-old black woman, was arrested for refusing to move to the back of the bus eleven years before Rosa Parks did so.

Her legal appeal, after her conviction for breaking a Virginia law (known as a Jim Crow law) forbidding integrated seating, resulted in a 7-1 Supreme Court decision barring segregation in interstate commerce.

By Robin Washington, Robin Washington. Com [Excerpts]

Eleven years before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama, a young woman named Irene Morgan rejected that same demand on an interstate bus headed to Maryland from Gloucester, Virginia.

Recovering from a miscarriage and already sitting far in the back, she defied the driver's order to surrender her seat to a white couple.

Like Parks, Morgan was arrested and jailed. But her action caught the attention of lawyers from the NAACP, led by Thurgood Marshall, and in two years her case reached the Supreme Court. Though the lawyers fervently believed that Jim Crow - the curious pseudonym for racial segregation - was unjust, they recognized the practice was still the law of the land, upheld by the 1896 Supreme Court decision in Plessy v. Ferguson.

Instead of seeking a judgment on humanitarian grounds or the equal protection provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment, they made the seemingly arcane argument that segregation in interstate travel violated the Constitution's Interstate Commerce Clause.

On June 3, 1946, that strategy paid off. In *Irene Morgan v. Virginia*, the court ruled that segregation in interstate travel was indeed unconstitutional as "an undue burden on commerce." But though that the decision was now law, the southern states refused to enforce it, and Jim Crow continued as the way of life in the South.

CLASS WAR REPORTS

“Two-Thirds Of Americans Favor Raising Taxes On People With Annual Salaries Exceeding \$1 Million”

“A Strong Majority Say That Wealth Should Be More Evenly Divided”

“Almost Three-Quarters Of Respondents Say That Large Corporations Have Too Much Influence In The Country”

“Most Americans Said The Chance To Get Ahead Was Mainly A Luxury For Those At The Top”

JUNE 3, 2015 By NOAM SCHEIBER and DALIA SUSSMAN, New York Times [Excerpts]. Megan Thee-Brenan and Marina Stefan contributed reporting.

Americans are broadly concerned about inequality of wealth and income despite an economy that has improved by most measures, a sentiment that is already driving the 2016 presidential contest, according to a New York Times/CBS News poll.

The poll found that a strong majority say that wealth should be more evenly divided and that it is a problem that should be addressed urgently. Nearly six in 10 Americans said government should do more to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor, but they split sharply along partisan lines. Only one-third of Republicans supported a more active government role, versus eight in 10 of Democrats.

These findings help explain the populist appeals from politicians of both parties, but particularly Democrats, who are seeking to capitalize on the sense among Americans that the economic recovery is benefiting only a handful at the very top.

Far from a strictly partisan issue, inequality looms large in the minds of almost half of Republicans and two-thirds of independents, suggesting that it will outlive the presidential primary contests and become a central theme in next year's general election campaign.

Still, it was Americans' views on the distribution of money and opportunity in the country that were most striking.

More than half of higher-income Americans said that money and wealth should be more evenly distributed. Across party lines, most Americans said the chance to get ahead was mainly a luxury for those at the top.

"People have to get a high school education and they have to go to college as well, and then they go out there and can only get a low-paying job," said Betty Burgess, 70, a retired textile worker from Lincolnton, N.C., who is a Republican.

Almost three-quarters of respondents say that large corporations have too much influence in the country, about double the amount that said the same of unions. However, a majority of Americans said that workers who did not want to join a union at their workplace should be able to opt out of paying union fees, even as they benefit from the union's protection and bargaining efforts. Unions generally oppose these right-to-work measures.

The phenomenon of public frustration about inequality rising several years into a recovery is not unprecedented. According to data that Leslie McCall, a professor at Northwestern University, has culled from the General Social Survey, a biennial survey by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, some measures of concern about inequality rose steadily after the 1990-91 recession and did not peak until 1996, after which they fell for several years.

The source of the resentment, Professor McCall said, was that "people think the returns to economic growth should be going to people like them as much as they should be going to people at the top."

The poll also included a variety of intriguing findings about what Americans think should be done to reduce inequality.

Six in 10 Americans opposed requiring fast-food chains and other employers of hourly workers to raise wages to at least \$15 an hour, the aim of a two-and-a-half year nationwide campaign led in part by a major union. (On Tuesday, Francis Slay, the mayor of St. Louis, threw his weight behind an effort to gradually raise the minimum wage there to \$15 an hour by 2020, following similar moves in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle in recent years.)

When asked about the other end of the income spectrum, two-thirds of Americans favored raising taxes on people with annual salaries exceeding \$1 million. By 50 to 45 percent, they favored capping the income of top executives at large corporations, a measure that more than one-third of Republicans supported as well.

DANGER: CAPITALISTS AT WORK



Poor And Foster Care Kids Covered By Medicaid Are Being Prescribed Too Many Dangerous Antipsychotic Drugs At Young Ages For Far Too Long:

“Kids On Medicaid Receiving Antipsychotics Don't Have Any Of The Limited ‘Medically Accepted Pediatric Conditions’ Supposedly Justifying Their Use”
“92% Of The (Pediatric) Medicaid Antipsychotic Use Is Inappropriate And Killing Children”

04/30/2015 by Art Levine, HuffPost' [Excerpt]

The release in late March of an alarming new report by federal investigators has confirmed in shocking new detail what has been known for years: Poor and foster care kids covered by Medicaid are being prescribed too many dangerous antipsychotic drugs at young ages for far too long -- mostly without any medical justification at all.

The report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Inspector General examined in depth nearly 700 claims filed in 2011 in five of the biggest prescribing states -- California, Florida, Illinois, Texas and New York -- and discovered that two thirds of all the prescribing with these popular and costly “second generation antipsychotics” (SGAs) raised high-risk “quality of care” concerns.

The new report noted several disturbing examples, just a few months after an overmedicated teen in foster care, Steven Unangst, died in Antioch, California.

The report cited a 10-old-year with ADHD given an antipsychotic -- without any medical documentation -- mixed in with other psych drugs; a 4-year-old on four psychotropic drugs, including two antipsychotics; and a 16-year-old with bipolar disorder on six psychiatric medications, including variously three antipsychotics.

Among the side effects of this polypharmacy assault: “This child experienced paranoia, hostility, unstable mood, hallucinations, and suicidal thoughts. This child also experienced significant side effects potentially resulting from the prescribed drugs, including a 22-pound weight gain, insomnia, and edema (swelling) of hands and feet.”

Perhaps even more damning, the report found, 92 percent of all kids on Medicaid receiving antipsychotics don't have any of the limited “medically accepted pediatric conditions” supposedly justifying their use.

These “accepted conditions” include the authority to use antipsychotics even for autistic children as young as 5 for such dubious FDA-approved conditions as “irritability.”

So just how far outside the bounds of sensible prescribing must a doctor be that government approval to provide antipsychotics to a 5-year-old child is somehow considered too limiting? Yet that's precisely the sort of free-fire-zone prescribing underway now for 92 percent of those kids receiving antipsychotics in foster care and the broader Medicaid program.

The Inspector General's report also noted that over half of kids receiving antipsychotics are victimized by “poor monitoring” of the drugs' risky health side effects -- which can include breast growth in boys, cardiac arrest, extreme weight gain and diabetes.

But the report and most of the few mainstream media accounts ignored altogether an even more fundamental example of failed oversight: the federal government's lax monitoring of state Medicaid programs dispensing these potentially life-threatening medications to children

Medicaid spends about \$3.5 billion a year on antipsychotics for all ages, largely for unaccepted uses, with nearly 2 million kids prescribed them.

Nationally, about 12 percent of all the nation's 500,000 foster care children have received Medicaid-paid antipsychotics at some point, often because they haven't been offered proven, “trauma-informed” intensive therapies, according to Kamala Allen, director of Child Health Quality for the Center for Health Care Strategies.

But Medicaid programs are generally all too glad to look the other way at such antipsychotic spending run amok.

Why?

“They're not willing to go up against the doctors or the pharmaceutical industry,” says Jim Gottstein, a crusading Alaska-based attorney with the Psychrights.org advocacy group; although he hasn't won a whistleblower fraud lawsuit yet, he has been pursuing legal strategies -- with the recent go-ahead of a federal appeals court -- to force state and federal Medicaid programs to follow federal law and to stop paying for fraudulent, unproven uses of the antipsychotics.

Even so, “Prevention of (improper) payment (is) beyond our statutory authority,” HHS's Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) insisted in response to a related 2011 Inspector General report about massive overprescribing in nursing homes.

With that sort of philosophy, it shouldn't be surprising to learn that federal officials aren't too keen on enforcing drugging protections for either nursing home residents (whose meds are usually paid by Medicare) or children on Medicaid.

“The federal government has done absolutely nothing of significance to rein in overprescribing,” says Bill Grimm, a senior counsel with the San Francisco-based National Center for Youth Law (NYCL) that has launched a PsychDrugs Action Campaign, now focused primarily on pending reform bills in the California legislature.

“A mere 8 percent of the youth are receiving these drugs for 'medically accepted conditions,' so why is the federal government paying for the rest of them?”

The agency within HHS charged with overseeing the joint federal-state Medicaid program, CMS, agreed to what Grimm and other critics see as mild suggestions from the IG to step up monitoring of pediatric antipsychotics, echoing the low-keyed stance of the GAO last year.

Facing little in the way of public accountability, officials at CMS and the sister Administration for Children and Families (ACF) overseeing foster care declined repeated phoned and emailed requests from me for comment on the specific, mounting criticisms of their prescription drug monitoring.

(They did send a few emails containing their assorted requirements that state governments send back their plans of “action.” But these “protocols” don't require any specific, measurable goals or face any federal prescribing targets, mandates, sanctions or accountability, notes Anna Johnson, a policy analyst with NYCL.

“Anything that the states copy and paste to send in will be approved,” she says, describing what she sees as essentially a “toothless” charade.)

This lack of rigorous enforcement is especially disturbing in light of the real-world experience of clinicians who are seeking to help kids with emotional problems even as they've already been horrifically damaged by overdrugging.

“I've certainly seen obesity up to a 100-pound weight gain in six months. Boys with gynecomastia (breast growth) have had breast lumps and have been lactating, and some of them have had mastectomies,” says Harrisburg-based psychiatrist Dr. Stefan Kruszewski, who is also noted as a successful whistleblower in four separate lawsuits challenging illegal marketing of antipsychotics and dangerous psychiatric care.

(That pattern was also involved in his own wrongful firing by a Pennsylvania welfare agency in 2003 after he reported medication-related deaths.)

“Imagine trying to be a 17-year-old black male in inner-city Philadelphia with breasts so large you should be wearing a D-cup bra -- and then trying to get along with your peers,” he points out.

“My introduction to this was a 16-year-old African-American boy and when I asked him to take off his shirt, he had massive breasts. He had been prescribed Risperdal for sleep for three years by his family doctor.”

On top of that, federal officials apparently believe that they can't even advise the states to stop paying for these groundless uses of antipsychotics, although states do have the option to refuse to make fraudulent drug payments.

For instance, a spokesperson for the Inspector General wrote me in a statement, “Medicaid coverage of drugs prescribed for non-medically accepted uses is permissible,

at State option,” indicating that the federal government, in turn, has no power to halt such uses.

“This doesn't make any sense,” says Toby Edelman, a senior policy attorney with the Center for Medicare Services, which has been fighting CMS's ongoing failure to crack down on an epidemic of nursing home overmedication. “We're spending so much money, and the drugs are so dangerous. Don't tell me you can't try different strategies to stop it; if one doesn't work, try another -- even if you think you don't have statutory authority.” But what's especially absurd to Edelman and other critics is the notion that federal officials think they're not allowed to suggest to state Medicaid authorities to stop paying for the unaccepted uses of these and other drugs.

“That's totally bogus,” she points out. “To say 'it's not our responsibility' while 92 percent of the (pediatric) Medicaid antipsychotic use is inappropriate and killing children, that's not acceptable.”

At the same time, Department of Justice attorneys spend years building cases that have led to \$26 billion in fines and settlements from the drug industry for defrauding Medicaid and illegal marketing to doctors and agencies, although such payouts are viewed in the industry as “chump change” given the billions in revenue annually each successful drug can make in the course of a typical 20-year patent.

This struggle by DOJ to recover billions in waste will never catch up with Medicaid's heedless spending on unaccepted uses of antipsychotics.

“They're just pretending to address the issue of overdrugging with a wink and a nod -- the Justice Department gets billions from drug companies for causing off-label uses that aren't supported by the law, while CMS is continuing to pay for these same prescriptions,” Gottstein observes.

As a result, the hard truth is that no vulnerable populations, except in a few states, are granted any meaningful safeguards.

Roughly 200,000 nursing home residents annually, Toby Edelman points out, are given these potentially life-threatening medications without medical justification despite dire FDA “Black Box” warnings and rarely enforced laws going back nearly 30 years. Meanwhile, Medicaid gives close to 2 million kids antipsychotics overwhelmingly to control “bad” behavior rather than for any proven psychiatric uses. As Dr. David Rubin, the director of the Policy Lab at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, told Mental Health Weekly, “The medications are being used particularly for disruptive behavior and to control the children.”

Yet nearly half of all kids getting the drugs aren't getting other behavioral health services such as therapy, according to research by the Center for Health Care Strategies.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Zionists Shoot Unarmed 14-Year-Old Palestinian Boy In Kafr Qaddum: Dozens Of Israeli Soldiers Reportedly Fired Live Rounds And Tear Gas

June 28, 2015 Ma'an

QALQILIYA -- Israeli forces shot and injured a 14-year-old Palestinian boy with live ammunition on Saturday when they opened fire on a march in the West Bank village of Kafr Qaddum near Qalqiliya.

A local popular resistance coordinator, Murad Shteivi, said that hundreds of Palestinians took part in the march, which set off following afternoon prayers toward an Israeli barricade that closes off the main entrance on the village's southern side.

Dozens of Israeli soldiers reportedly fired live rounds and tear gas at the protesters, resulting in the injury of 14-year-old Mohammad Abdul Ilah, who was shot in the thigh.

He was taken to Rafidia Hospital for treatment, Shteivi said.

An Israeli army spokeswoman asked to provide comment said she was looking into the incident.

Shteivi said that Saturday's march came in response to an increase in violations as part of the Israeli military-administered occupation.

He said that it was additional to the village's weekly marches, which are held on Fridays and call for the reopening of the village's southern entrance, which has been closed 13 years.

On Friday, dozens of Palestinian and foreign activists suffered excessive tear gas inhalation when Israeli forces dispersed the village's weekly march.

Earlier this month, on June 12, five Palestinians were injured, including two critically, when Israeli forces opened fire on the weekly march.

Kafr Qaddum has lost large swathes of its land to Israeli settlements, outposts and separation wall, all illegal under international law.

According to the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem, more than 10 percent of the village's land has been confiscated for the establishment of the settlements alone -- Kedumim, Kedumim Zefon, Jit, and Givat HaMerkaziz. The internationally recognized Palestinian territories have been occupied by the Israeli military since 1967.

Occupation Soldier Attempts To Arrest Palestinian For Refusing To Grovel At His Feet Like A Dog: “After The Soldier Had Finished Checking The Palestinian’s ID, The Israeli Soldier Threw The ID On The Concrete And Told Him To Pick It Back Up”

When He Refuses To Bow Down, Activists Intervene And Block The Soldier, Preventing Arrest

27th June 2015 International Solidarity Movement, Al Khalil Team

Al Khalil, Occupied Palestine

Yesterday, 26 of June 2015 approximately 21:30, nineteen year old Hatem Al Mohtaseb from Tel Rumeida, Hebron, was walking up the hill of Tel Rumeida when an Israeli soldier detained him and asked for his ID.

After the soldier had finished checking the Palestinians ID, the Israeli soldier then threw the ID on the concrete and told him to pick it back up.

The Palestinian man told the soldier that he is not a dog and will not pick it up off the ground and suggested to the soldier that he pick it back up and hand the ID back to him, like he had given it to the soldier at the start.

The soldier then refused and began to argue.

A nearby Palestinian then picked the ID up off the ground and gave it to Hatem Al Mohtaseb.

International Solidarity Movement activists that were present then walked up the hill and were discussing with the Palestinian man what had just happened.

The same soldier came up to Hatem Al Mohtaseb and told him to move from the spot where he was standing in his own neighborhood. Hatem Al Mohtaseb then

refused to move and the soldier aggressively shouting in Hebrew, then attempted to arrest him but ISMers stood in the way and prevented the arrest.

The soldier then complained to several male settlers walking up the road to the nearby illegal settlement.

One of the settlers came right up to the activists, calling them sick people and Europa Nazis before leaving.

After this point the soldier's commanding officer had arrived and after speaking to Hatem Al Mohtaseb he decided not to follow up on the arrest.

Zionist Lynch Mob Tries Again To Kill Same Unarmed Palestinian In Occupied Hebron: “Makhamra Was Previously Attacked By The Extremists Four Times, In The Same Area, And Survived A Gunshot Injury To The Neck’ “The Fanatics Are Trying To Force Him Out Of His Land To Expand Their Illegal Outpost”

June 28, 2015 by IMEMC & Agencies

Palestinian medical sources have reported that a man, 57 years of age, suffered a serious injury, after a number of Israeli extremists assaulted him, on Saturday at night, in Be'er al-'Ad area in Masafer Yatta, south of the southern West Bank city of Hebron.

The sources said the extremists attacked Mohammad Younis Makhamra, causing various injuries to the head and other parts of his body; the man was moved to a local hospital suffering serious, but stable wounds.

Coordinator of Popular Committee against the Wall and Settlements Rateb Jabour said the fanatics came from Mitzpe Yair illegal outpost, and “tried to lynch the man by inflicting injuries to vital parts of his body.”

Jabour added that Makhamra was previously attacked by the extremists four times, in the same area, and survived a gunshot injury to the neck.

The fanatics are trying to force him out of his land to expand their illegal outpost that is not even authorized by Israel.

Occupation Troops Stop A Protest Against The Seizure Of Beit Al Baraka Christian Church And Hospital By Zionist Settlers: “This Is Palestine, Muslims, Christians And Jews Are Fighting To End The Occupation, This Is Democracy”

June 27, 2015 by IMEMC News

Members of the Combatants for Peace movement and activists from Popular Committees against the Wall and settlements in the southern West Bank gathered, on Saturday, near Beit Al Baraka Church and hospital building located on the Jerusalem-Hebron road to protest the Israeli army's decision to allow settlers to take over the building and the land on it.

“We have come here today to stand as partners against the confiscation of this building, which is a hospital dedicated to serve the public, “said Mittal Luckhof, member of Combatants for Peace.

Today's march was organized in response to the recent Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon decision of approving the reconstruction of the place in preparation for the construction of a settlement on an area of 40 dunums.

Earlier this year settlers claim they bought the site from a Swedish company.

“This is the land allocated by the Church to serve the public can not in any way be allowed to sold or taken,” said the Rev. George Awad, of the Baraka Presbyterian Church in Palestine.

Pastor Danny Awad said that the occupation forces prevented Archbishop of Sebastia from the Roman Orthodox church Bishop Atallah Hanna from participating in the march, and summoned him for integration in a Masqupia detention in Jerusalem.

The demonstrators marched and tried to reach building while chanting anti-occupation and settlement slogans. For their part, Israeli soldiers intercepted the protesters and prevented them from reaching the place.

Soldiers also assaulted some of the protesters and detained Combatants for Peace movement activist for some time.

“This is Palestine, Muslims, Christians and Jews are fighting to end the occupation, this is democracy,” said Hassan Brigeiah from the Popular Committees Against the Wall and settlements.

He told soldiers “Go to your homes here the State of Palestine and you represent the occupation.”

In a press statement, earlier this month the Baraka Presbyterian Church of Palestine assured that it was not involved in Beit El-Baraka’s illegal and unacceptable act and the church protest it strongly.

The church also called upon all religious, public, governmental, and non-governmental institutions to stand by the church at this difficult time and to help claim back the property of Beit El-Baraka.

To check out what life is like under a murderous military occupation commanded by foreign terrorists, go to:

<http://www.palestinechronicle.com/>

The occupied nation is Palestine. The foreign terrorists call themselves “Israeli.”

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



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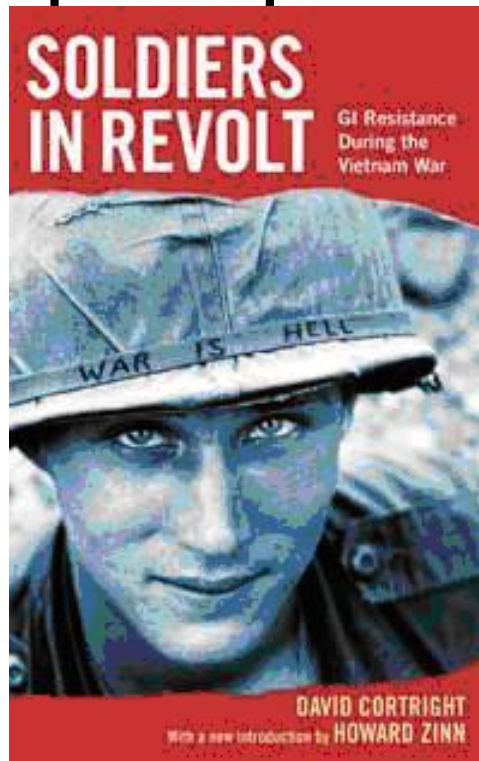
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