

## Military Resistance 7J22

[GI Special]



**“We Were Lucky Today”**  
**“‘Civilians Here Will Be Arrested**  
**And Imprisoned Because They**  
**Helped The Insurgents,’ He**  
**Threatened”**  
**“The Insurgents Opened Up From**  
**The Hill To The East, Raining**  
**Bullets And RPGs Into A**  
**Withdrawing French Column”**

# **“We’d Expected Them To Shoot At Us From Afar -- Not Like This” “They Know How To Shoot,” Capt. Guillaume Said: “We Were Lucky Today”**

OCTOBER 29, 2009 By YAROSLAV TROFIMOV, Wall St. Journal

RODBAR, Afghanistan -- At 10 a.m. Sunday, a dozen ragged schoolboys, who had been milling around this village’s school after a meeting between Western soldiers and local elders, melted away, followed by their white-capped headmaster.

Then, 30 seconds after the last boy carried away the blackboard, the ambush began.

From crevices in the craggy hills to the north, Afghan insurgents fired machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades at a French Foreign Legion unit that had entered Rodbar earlier in the morning.

**The ensuing firefight ended only after attack helicopters and heavy mortars pummeled the mountainsides, finally repelling the rebels beyond the ridgeline.**

**Rodbar, a village of several dozen mud houses on the front line between government-held and insurgent-controlled parts of Afghanistan, isn’t in some remote outback: It is part of Kabul province’s Surobi district, about 50 miles east of the capital.**

**“Surobi is important because it offers the keys to Kabul,” says Col. Benoit Durieux, commander of the Foreign Legion task force here.**

The French forces took responsibility for the area from the Italian military last year, and almost immediately lost 10 men to an ambush in Uzbeen Valley, where Rodbar is located. The Italians also lost one soldier in the valley, but rarely patrolled there, prompting allegations, denied by the Italian government, of a tacit collusion with the insurgents.

France has since moved more forces and heavy weaponry into the district, where both the mainstream Taliban and the allied militia of warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar operate. In June, the Foreign Legion established a company-size combat outpost, named Rocco, about two-thirds of the way up the valley.

In the night before Sunday’s operation, the Legionnaires -- a motley crew of nationalities including Romanian, Chilean and Chinese -- threw a raunchy party at the outpost’s improvised bar, downing beer as a sequence of porn videos and Ukrainian pop clips blared from the dust-covered TV.

Some Legionnaires, like a pensive Italian art history graduate, had enlisted for adventure. Others, like a thin Estonian, signed up to escape potentially lethal problems

at home. The Legion wipes out minor criminal records and provides new identities and a French passport in exchange for a five-year contract. "Believe me, I feel safer here in Afghanistan," the Estonian said.

A map at the outpost, which is regularly attacked with rockets, mortars and small-arms fire, showed a thin red line crossing the valley 2½ miles to the north.

"Beyond this line, the insurgents still have freedom to circulate," said the commander, Capt. Guillaume. (French army field rules ban publishing soldiers' surnames.)

Rodbar sits right on that line.

The French first entered the village in August, uneventfully. When they returned in late September, they came under fire.

The original French plan had been to provide villagers with a tractor and farming supplies, in an attempt to win hearts and minds.

But such a ceremony -- requiring the attendance of Col. Durieux and the district governor -- was judged too risky.

"We know that the insurgents have regrouped themselves. Our mission is to go to Rodbar to find out whether it has fallen under insurgent sway," Capt. Guillaume, a 29-year-old graduate of France's elite St. Cyr military academy, explained Saturday night.

The Legion's Sunday journey to Rodbar began at 4:30 a.m. The starry sky provided the only light as 14 armored fighting vehicles rolled to hilltops. As the force split into several sections, Capt. Guillaume and two of his men sprinted down into a creek bed and then up a rocky slope dotted with thorn bushes.

### **French Troops Winning Hearts And Minds:**

By sunrise, they had reached the village school and, assault rifles raised, cleared it room by room.

**Meantime, other Legionnaires walked into Rodbar's center below, knocking on the doors of prominent locals and telling them to assemble outside the school for an unannounced shura, or meeting, with the captain.**

By 8 a.m., the first villagers arrived, most of them children wearing embroidered Pashtun skullcaps and clutching Unicef-issued backpacks.

Only a handful of adults appeared.

The most senior of them, Jamal, a representative of the area's tribal chieftain, stared blankly when asked about the Taliban.

"We're just civilians here. We know nothing about them," he said.

Capt. Guillaume was skeptical. When Outpost Rocco was attacked Oct. 12, "the entire village saw the insurgents pass by, but no one alerted the army or the police," he told the villagers, stern-faced.

**"Civilians here will be arrested and imprisoned because they helped the insurgents," he threatened.**

An Afghan army representative sitting next to Capt. Guillaume, Sgt. Din Mohammad, tried a softer line. "We're here to help you, not to disturb you. If a mortar falls on your house, it pains me as much as if it were to fall on my house," he said.

The villagers, speaking one after the other, insisted that they will inform the authorities immediately should any insurgents enter Rodbar. They continued to deny any militant presence in their midst.

As Capt. Guillaume talked to the villagers, his second-in-command rushed to whisper urgent news into his ear.

A series of gunshots had been heard in the distance, presumably a signal by the Taliban.

Some suspicious men were spotted climbing the mountain. One was seen using a small mirror to indicate his position.

**The meeting over, the sullen villagers filed out, one by one.**

Then the schoolchildren -- who had yet to begin the day's classes -- packed up and started to leave.

"It's a pretty short school day," one of the Legionnaires quipped. "Not a good sign," said another.

The first insurgent volleys came from the north, behind the long side of the L-shaped school. "We have contact, we have contact," screamed the radio operator of the forward French section. The Legionnaires responded by firing 81-millimeter mortars at insurgent muzzle flashes. Red tracers soared up and puffs of white smoke began rising from the ridge.

**Bullets whizzed past the school building. Some of the firing came from a house inside Rodbar itself.**

Minutes of silence followed.

**Then the insurgents opened up from the hill to the east, raining bullets and RPGs into a withdrawing French column.**

**"We'd expected them to shoot at us from afar -- not like this," breathed out Chief Warrant Officer Thierry as his reconnaissance vehicle's driver jumped out, kneeled, and started firing his assault rifle into the hillside.**

Two Tigre attack helicopters summoned from Kabul unloaded into the insurgent positions. Then French 120-millimeter mortars unleashed two dozen fiery flashes on the hillside. By 11:30 a.m., the shooting was over. No French or Afghan troops had been wounded. It isn't clear how many, if any, insurgents were hit.

"They know how to shoot," Capt. Guillaume said after his men returned to base. "We were lucky today."

---

## ACTION REPORTS

# **"We Got Pockets" [Outreach To New York Army National Guard]**

From: Alan Stolzer, Military Resistance  
To: Military Resistance Newsletter  
Sent: October 28, 2009  
Subject: "We Got Pockets"

This pm found a number of National Guard troops patrolling one of our Manhattan commuter terminals. I've noticed (recently) they come later than usual (in my experience) to this particular terminal and came across six today.

I didn't have any lit, DVDs with me after meeting the first pair but introduced myself anyway. I told them I might be back so not to go away. But first I asked if there was any particular schedule they adhere to and they said no. They're assigned duty that morning and proceed on orders. Nothing is scheduled.

On return I found two other troops, younger than the first pair, on duty. After the intro I asked them if they wanted a DVD or any publications and told them I had bags to carry stuff in.

One said, "we got pockets. One good thing about the Army is the uniform pockets." They gladly received the material after telling me they were probably not being deployed this year.

Minutes later I came across another pair standing watch at another spot in the terminal.

One said he'd been to Iraq and "wasn't thrilled about it." He might be deploying soon to Afghanistan. They didn't hesitate either taking the handouts.

All got the latest Traveling Soldier and "Keep the Guard Home" pamphlets. The first pair took my last two "Querido Camilo" DVDs and each received my last two "Military Resistance" newsletters as well.

All six soldiers were interested in what I had to say.

---

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **2 More Carson GIs Killed; “The Deadliest Single Month For The Post Since The War In Afghanistan Started In 2001 And Iraq Was Invaded In 2003”**

Oct 27, 2009 The Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — The military says two Fort Carson soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan.

The Defense Department said Tuesday that 19-year-old Pfc. Devin J. Michel died Saturday and 24-year-old Sgt. Eduviges G. Wolf died Sunday.

The Army says Michel, of Stockton, Ill., died from wounds he sustained when his unit was attacked with an improvised bomb in Zhari province.

Wolf, of Hawthorne, Calif., died from wounds she sustained when insurgents attacked her vehicle with a rocket-propelled grenade in Kunar province.

They are the 16th and 17th Fort Carson soldiers killed this month.

A Fort Carson spokeswoman says this is the deadliest single month for the post since the war in Afghanistan started in 2001 and Iraq was invaded in 2003.

---

## **U.S. Marine Killed In Helmand**

October 29, 2009 U.S. Department of Defense News Release No. 847-09

Lance Cpl. Cody R. Stanley, 21, of Rosanky, Texas, died Oct. 28 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

---

## Washington Soldier Killed In Kandahar



Pfc. Christopher Walz, 25, of Vancouver, Wash. was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when he and six other soldiers were killed Tuesday Oct. 27, 2009 in a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, the military said. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

## Illinois Soldier Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Spc. Jared D. Stanker, 22, of Evergreen Park, Ill. Stanker was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when he and six other soldiers were killed Tuesday Oct. 27, 2009 in a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, the military said. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

## Indiana Sgt. Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Sgt. Dale Griffin, 29, of Terre Haute, Ind., was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when he and six other soldiers were killed Tuesday Oct. 27, 2009 in a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, the military said. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

## Louisiana Sgt. Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Sgt. Patrick Williamson, 24, of Broussard, La. was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when he and six other soldiers were killed Tuesday Oct. 27, 2009 in a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, the military said. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)



## Texas Sgt. Killed In Kandahar



U.S. Army Sgt. Fernando Delarosa, 24, of Alamo, Texas was deployed with the 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., when he and six other soldiers were killed Tuesday Oct. 27, 2009 in a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, the military said. (AP Photo/U.S. Army)

---

## Texas Soldier Killed In Afghanistan

October 29, 2009 Associated Press

TERRELL, Texas - Another Texas soldier has died in Afghanistan.

Twenty-4-year-old Staff Sgt. Shawn McNabb, of Terrell, was among a group of soldiers killed late Sunday night when the helicopter they were in went down shortly after they completed a mission.

Dallas-Fort Worth television station KDFW reported Wednesday that his mother, Ann McNabb, says her son loved helping people.

The soldier was a combat medic who had already completed three tours in Iraq.

---

## Green Beret From Medford Killed In Afghanistan Crash

October 28, 2009 By MARTIN C. EVANS, Newsday

An Army Green Beret from Medford was among the 10 Americans killed Monday when a Chinook helicopter crashed in western Afghanistan during a drug raid on Taliban traders.

Staff Sgt. Keith Bishop, a 1999 graduate of Patchogue-Medford High School, was a member of a Special Operations team working to stem the flow of heroin-producing opium that helps bankroll the U.S.

---

## **Soldier From Vancouver Killed In Afghanistan**

October 29, 2009 By TERESA YUAN, KGW.com Staff

VANCOUVER, Wa. -- President Obama made a surprise trip to meet with the families of 18 Americans soldiers and civilians killed in Afghanistan this week, including one soldier from Vancouver, Wash.

Private First Class Ian Walz attended the Vancouver Public Schools system from preschool all the way through high school and graduated from Hudson's Bay High School in 2002.

"We are deeply saddened to learn of the untimely death of this fine young man. I understand he spoke of becoming a teacher and we wish he could have returned home to teach in our community," said Superintendent Steve Webb. "I know he will be missed by those who knew him—his friends, his fellow classmates, and the teachers and staff members in our schools. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family."

Walz was one of eight soldiers killed by roadside bombs in Southern Afghanistan on Tuesday.

Private Walz was part of the Fort Lewis-based 5th Stryker Brigade. The unit has been hit hard. Since deploying in July, they've lost 26 men, including Walz.

His family told "The Oregonian" that Walz had a wonderful sense of humor, he loved history and the news. The 25-year-old wanted to get a degree in political science, travel the world and start a career.

Walz's mother arrived at Dover Air Base Wednesday night. She was expected to meet with President Obama along with the families of 17 other American soldiers and civilians killed this week. It's the first time since the Clinton Administration that a sitting president has attended a dignified transfer ceremony.

---

## **Canadian Soldier Killed By Panjwayi IED; Two More Wounded**

October 28, 2009 CBC News

One Canadian soldier was killed and two were injured Wednesday in Afghanistan by an improvised explosive device.

Lt. Justin Garrett Boyes, 26, was killed when his foot patrol was hit by the blast, at about 9 a.m. local time, 20 kilometres southwest of Kandahar City in Panjwayi district.

Boyes belonged to the 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry based in Edmonton and was 10 days into his second deployment to Afghanistan when he was killed. At the time of his death, Boyes was mentoring an Afghan national police patrol.

Two other soldiers who were wounded in the incident were treated at the Kandahar Airfield medical facility and are in good condition.

---

## **Finnish Occupation Troops Under Fire “For Several Hours”**

10.28.09 Yleisradio Oy

Finnish peacekeepers [translation: occupation soldiers] serving in Afghanistan have again come under fire. No injuries were reported in the incident.

A group of Swedish and Finnish peacekeepers [translation: occupation soldiers] were on patrol with Afghan police and troops in the western part of the country at the time.

After the initial assault, peacekeepers [translation: occupation soldiers] came under fire in the ensuing gun battle which lasted for several hours. Both the peacekeepers [translation: occupation soldiers] and Afghan officials responded with hand gun fire backed by air support provided by other ISAF fighter planes.

The incident took place early Thursday morning some 160 kilometres distant from Mazar-I-Sharif.

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

**OCCUPATION ISN'T LIBERATION  
ALL TROOPS HOME NOW!**

**THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO COMPREHENSIBLE REASON TO BE IN THIS EXTREMELY HIGH RISK LOCATION AT THIS TIME, EXCEPT THAT THE PACK OF TRAITORS THAT RUN THE GOVERNMENT IN D.C. WANT YOU THERE TO DEFEND THEIR IMPERIAL DREAMS:  
That is not a good enough reason.**



U.S. soldiers during an ambush at the village of Lanyal in the Korengal Valley, Kunar Province, eastern Afghanistan on October 20. (AFP/File/Simon Lim)

---

## **SOMALIA WAR REPORTS**

**“Mujahideen Had Claimed Victory Over Today’s Fighting In Mogadishu Saying That They Burnt One Of The Armed Vehicles Of The African Union Troops”**

10/28/2009 By: Hassan Osman Abdi; MOGADISHU (Sh. M. Network)

At least 5 people have been killed and 15 others have been wounded after fresh fighting with heavy shelling broke out in several neighborhoods in the Somali capital Mogadishu, officials told Shabelle radio on Wednesday.

Reports say that the fighting started at Mekka Al-mukarama street, a key road that connects the presidential palace and Km4, a base for the African Union [occupation] troops AMISOM as the AU troops tried to start military movement around there and blockaded the streets which caused to spread the war into further districts like Hodan, Hawl-wadag and Waberi all in the Somali capital Mogadishu.

Reports also indicate that more than 5 people died during the fighting including government officer and a teenager who was at around Dabka intersection in Mogadishu as bitter shelling from the side of the AMISOM troops were landing into many areas in Bakara Market.

Officials from Harakat Al-shabab Mujahideen had claimed victory over today's fighting in Mogadishu saying that they burnt one of the armed vehicles of the African Union troops AMISOM pointing out that they also inflicted more casualties to the allied soldiers of the TFG and the AU.

The fighting had also halted all movements of the traffic, people and business in the capital though the situation seems normal at currently.

---

## **“Somalia’s President Escaped An Opportunistic Attack By Islamic Militants”**

October 28, 2009 CNN

Somalia's president escaped an opportunistic attack by Islamic militants Wednesday as deadly fighting erupted in the center of Mogadishu, officials said.

Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed was returning from a trip to Yemen when insurgents began firing mortars, resulted in a clash with African Union peacekeepers, the president's director of communications told CNN.

The heaviest of the fighting was centered on Maka Al Mukarama, which links the airport to the presidential palace but it is heavily guarded by forces from the African Union Mission in Somalia.

---

## **TROOP NEWS**

**NOT ANOTHER DAY  
NOT ANOTHER DOLLAR  
NOT ANOTHER LIFE**



Hearse carrying the casket of Sgt. 1st Class Bradley Bohle of Glen Burnie, Md., Oct. 5, 2009 at St. Bernadette Catholic Church in Severn, Md. Bohle was killed when a vehicle he was in struck by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan. Bohle was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.  
(AP Photo/Steve Ruark)

---

**IVAW Fundraiser:  
New York City  
Friday, October 30th 6:00-10:00PM**



# R & R @ Pom Gallery in SOHO Resistance & Reparations

## IVAW Fundraiser to Support G.I. Resistance & Iraqi Art

**Pomegranate Gallery**  
**133 Greene Street, New York City 10012**

Nearest Subways  
B,D,F to Broadway-Lafayette  
C, E to Spring St 6 to Bleecker St

Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW) is a national organization made up of veterans and active duty GIs who are building a resistance movement from within the military. Come hear about our work to end the occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan, fight for Iraqi and Afghan reparations, and win full veterans benefits.

Enjoy stunning works by contemporary Iraqi artists at the Pomegranate Gallery in Soho and support our GI resistance movement.

### Event Info:

6:00-7:30 PM	Reception
7:30-8:30 PM	Program
8:30 - 9:30 PM	Live Music & Networking

\*Victor Agosto, IVAW Board Member, Iraq Veteran & Afghanistan War Resister

\* Rick Reyes, IVAW Member and Afghanistan Veteran

\*Special Guest: Survivor from Hiroshima, Japan

\* Open Bar with beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages

\*Hors d'oeuvres

### Tickets:

To Reserve Tickets Click Here:

<https://org2.democracyinaction.org/o/5966/t/7584/l/eng/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event KEY=8991>

### Enlisted

\$1000 Sergeant Major

\$500 Platoon Sergeant

\$250 Squad Leader

\$100 Corporal

\$50 Private

[Other amounts accepted. Surprise us!]

Every ticket bearer of \$1000 will receive the two books mentioned above, a "I Support IVAW" t-shirt and gift certificate to a local spa, yoga studio or restaurant.

Every ticket bearer of \$500 will receive the two books mentioned above and a "I Support IVAW" t shirt.

Every ticket bearer of \$250 will receive both books mentioned above and a copy of the DVD Sir! No Sir!

Every ticket bearer of \$100 will receive a signed copy of David Cortight's book Soldiers in Revolt or IVAW's Winter Soldier.

IVAW National Office - 630 9th Ave Suite 807 New York, NY 10036 –  
Phone 646.723.0989  
Fax 646.723.0996  
ivaw@ivaw.org

## **DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN THE MILITARY?**

**Forward Military Resistance along, or send us the address if you wish and we'll send it regularly. Whether in Iraq or stuck on a base in the USA, this is extra important for your service friend, too often cut off from access to encouraging news of growing resistance to the wars, inside the armed services and at home. Send email requests to address up top or write to: The Military Resistance, Box 126, 2576 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10025-5657. Phone: 888.711.2550**

# **“To Send Thousands More Troops To Afghanistan Could Break Them, One General Warned Jones” “The Army And Marine Corps Are Worn Out”**

Oct. 26, 2009 by George C. Wilson, National Journal [Excerpts]

A conscience-stricken member of the House Armed Services Committee is writing a book called "My Daddy's Not Dead Yet" in hopes it will atone for what he now considers his sinful vote to empower former President George W. Bush to invade Iraq in 2003.

Rep. Walter Jones, R-N.C., whose district includes the sprawling Marine base of Camp Lejeune, told me the title was inspired by a little boy who feared his Marine father would be killed in Iraq.



He has been meeting with retired generals to discuss the pros and cons of escalating the U.S. effort in Afghanistan.

He said several of these generals on his impromptu board of education have urged him to vote against any Obama plan that calls for sending tens of thousands more U.S. troops to Afghanistan.

One told him the Army and Marine Corps are worn out.

To ask them to send thousands more troops to Afghanistan could break them, one general warned Jones.

---

## **260 From Alabama National Guard Off To Obama's Imperial Slaughterhouse**

Oct 28, 2009 The Associated Press

A Guard spokesman says about 260 members of the 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command are scheduled to leave Birmingham this weekend. A departure ceremony is set for 10:30 a.m. Saturday at John Carroll High School. The unit will report to Fort Hood, Texas, for training before going to Afghanistan in early December.

The unit's commander, Reynold Hoover, will be pinned with the new rank of brigadier general on Friday. A spokesman says Hoover will be the first general officer of the Alabama National Guard to deploy to Afghanistan or Iraq as part of the war on terror.

The departures mean nearly 15,000 Alabama Army and Air National Guard members have been activated and deployed since Sept. 11, 2001.

---

**“There Have Always Been  
Disgruntled Privates, But The  
Sheer Disgust Was Never This  
Intense. And The Top Generals  
Seem Oblivious”**

**“From Line Doggies Up To Bird  
Colonels (And Even A Few Junior**

# **Generals), There's A Powerful Sense That We're Throwing Away Soldiers' Lives For Theories That Just Don't Work"**

**"The Most Profound Rift Between Frontline Soldiers On One Side And Top Generals On The Other That I've Encountered In 22 Years Of Military Service"**

**"The Generals Refuse To Recognize That, From The Local Viewpoint, The Taliban Are The Patriots. We're The Redcoats"**

October 28, 2009 By RALPH PETERS, New York Post [Excerpts]

AFGHANISTAN isn't completely hopeless, just useless.

It's a strategic joke with a bloody punch line.

Even if everything went perfectly in Afghanistan -- which it won't -- the results would be virtually meaningless: Our mortal enemies (above all, al Qaeda) have dug in elsewhere, from Pakistan to Somalia.

Now we are warned that, unless we send another 40,000 US troops to convince Afghans we're their friends, unspecified woes will fall upon us like biblical plagues.

Apart from the curious notion that sending more Infantrymen is the way to win hearts and minds, the hearts and minds of Afghans not only can't be won, but aren't worth winning.

Our soldiers are dying for a fad, not for a strategy.

Our vaunted counterinsurgency doctrine is the military equivalent of hula hoops, pet rocks and Beanie Babies: an oddity that caught the Zeitgeist.

**The embrace of this suicidal fad by ambitious senior generals has created the most profound rift between frontline soldiers on one side and top generals on the other that I've encountered in 22 years of military service and another 11 years covering our troops.**

There have always been disgruntled privates, but the sheer disgust was never this intense. And the top generals seem oblivious. (You can't just fly in, say, "How's it going, lieutenant?" and fly back to headquarters.)

From line doggies up to bird colonels (and even a few junior generals), there's a powerful sense that we're throwing away soldiers' lives for theories that just don't work. We enforce rules of engagement that kill our own troops to avoid alienating villagers who actively support the Taliban and celebrate our deaths.

**The generals refuse to recognize that, from the local viewpoint, the Taliban are the patriots.**

**We're the Redcoats.**

**Our counterinsurgency (COIN) theory -- hatched by military pseudo-intellectuals and opportunists -- has no serious historical basis.**

**It ignores the uncomfortable lessons of 3,000 years of fighting insurgencies and terrorists.**

**Its authors claim Vietnam and Algeria as success stories.**

But COIN theory is the perfect politically correct gimmick for the times: It posits that development is the answer to every problem (2,000 years of tribal hatred? Just dig 'em a well).

But what if the locals don't want our kind of development?

In Afghanistan, our "COIN" doctrine downplays the vitality of tradition and tribal culture, while resolutely ignoring the inconvenient religious fanaticism driving the hardcore Taliban.

**COIN theory also insists that success depends on establishing "government legitimacy."**

**Well, the Kabul government we're protecting is about as legit as a Mexican drug gang.**

**Afghans won't defend it. So our troops have to.**

Now Afghans face a presidential runoff election. The challenger, Abdullah Abdullah, can't win. Were he to accept an invitation to join a coalition government, he'd lose all credibility.

So our troops hold their fire and die to protect Afghan villagers who back the Taliban and to protect an Afghan government the people despise.

How, exactly, does this advance our national security?

We've lost our way.

No American soldier should die because senior generals lack the integrity to admit they were just plain wrong.

Within the dominant Pashtun population, the Taliban are homegrown heroes.

We rationalize away the evidence.

But Afghanistan's a strategic vacuum that sucks in resources and lives to no sensible purpose.

By propping up President Karzai's government of thieves and attempting to force our vision on Afghanistan we've rescued a defeated Taliban from oblivion. So much for COIN theory.

Killing our nation's enemies always makes sense. Sacrificing our troops for the Pentagon's equivalent of Beanie Babies is despicable.

**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 send email to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org): Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 888.711.2550**

**Fucked Over Again:  
Up To 14,000 Students May Not Receive  
G.I. Bill Living Stipends Nov. 1 “But  
There Will Be No More Emergency  
Payments For Those Who Don't Get Paid  
On Time”**

Oct 27, 2009 By Rick Maze - Staff writer; Navy Times [Excerpts]

Up to 14,000 students may not receive living stipends Nov. 1 as the Veterans Affairs Department continues to dig out of a backlog of claims for the Post-9/11 GI Bill — but there will be no more emergency payments for those who don't get paid on time.

VA officials said Tuesday they have about 14,000 enrollment certifications pending final approval for tuition, book allowance and living stipends. The certifications are the final step for an eligible veteran enrolled in school to receive benefits.

"It is possible, if we have not worked their case by the end of the month, that some may not receive their housing payment on the first," VA officials said in a statement, referring to Nov. 1.

Student-veterans eligible for the living stipend who never applied for the emergency payment can still apply if they want to. Any money they receive will be deducted from future living stipends.

---

## **Jury Awards At Least \$750,000 To Former Soldier Shot By Psycho Rat Cop: He Was Injured In 2002 Attack That Killed Another Soldier During Training Exercise**

Oct 28, 2009 The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — A former Army sergeant wounded during a military training exercise was awarded at least \$750,000 in his lawsuit against the Moore County Sheriff's Office and the former deputy who shot him.

The Fayetteville Observer reported that the federal jury in Greensboro awarded the money to former Army Sgt. Stephen Phelps, who was injured in the February 2002 shooting that killed another soldier. He had sued the sheriff's office and former Deputy Randall Butler.

"I was happy that the truth finally came out," Phelps said after the verdict was read Tuesday night.

The jury awarded \$650,000 in compensatory damages and \$100,000 or \$200,000 in punitive damages Tuesday night. Phelps' lawyer, Carlos Mahoney, had sought \$1.2 million.

Phelps and 1st Lt. Tallas Tomeny had been taking part in Robin Sage, an exercise that trains soldiers for Special Forces. Tomeny was killed, and his estate settled out of court.

Butler had argued that the men were acting suspiciously in an area that had experienced a lot of burglaries. Butler also said he saw two machine guns and that Tomeny had told Phelps to kill him.

On Tuesday, jurors said they didn't believe Butler's claims about the guns or the order to kill. Greg Harris of Hoke County said he found Phelps and Leiber more believable than Butler.

"Mr. Leiber's testimony was pretty strong," he said. "And Phelps — (the lawyers) couldn't get him crossed up. His story stayed the same throughout his testimony."

Harris said Butler's story changed.

---

## **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."**

**Frederick Douglass, 1852**

**“Hope for change doesn’t cut it when you’re still losing buddies.”  
-- J.D. Englehart, Iraq Veterans Against The War**

## **The G-20 Police State**



From: Mike Hastie  
To: GI Special  
Sent: October 23, 2009

The G-20 Police State

Mike Hastie, Vietnam Veteran  
September 24, 2009

**Photo and caption from the I-R-A-Q (I Remember Another Quagmire) portfolio of Mike Hastie, US Army Medic, Vietnam 1970-71. (For more of his outstanding work, contact at: [hastiemike@earthlink.net](mailto: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**

**“Its Way Too Bad Liberals & Progs Have Such A Nitwit Track Record On The Notion Of Civil Firearms Possession.”**

**“You Can Find Anti Racist & Anti Imperialist Sensibilities Amongst Thoughtful Gun Owners”**

**“The USG Is The Most Violent & Predatory Government Currently Looting The Planet”**

**Therefore, Part Of Their Program “Is Criminalizing Gun Ownership Amongst The Working Class”**

**We face far graver, far more possible destruction of our liberty from the Federal government & its police than we do from medieval goat herds, FOREIGN god fundies, home grown wackjobs, or foreign powers.**

October 27, 2009 By neoludd, Vietnam Veterans Against The War Net [Excerpts]

Its way too bad liberals & progs have such a nitwit track record on the notion of civil firearms possession.

They abandoned gun owners to the moonbat Right long ago.

Having watched this for many decades - I grew up in a shooting, reloading household in NYC in the 50's-60's ....

Back in the 80's, there were very similar stories of .....christ, words have no meaning any more.....if I say far right itll be close enough ... -young men from moonbat political milieus- Posse Comitatus, in the upper Midwest, Nitzies in the NW, the klan in its variants in the S gaining military training.



(i remember breathless progressives showing me a map of how those groups were gonna carve up the country. They were in quite the tizzy.)

As it was said, with much scarum & alarm, about the Black Panther Party.

**The main reason Panther Geronimo Pratt was framed by the FBI & sent to prison for....18 years? 8 in solitary?- was because he was going around the county applying his Viet chops to turning Party HQ's into defendable strongpoints.....this is when Panthers were being murdered in their beds.....in the streets.**

I think VVAW rated so high back then on what today would be a terror watch (to say the least) list, BECAUSE we were military vets, many combat vets, to boot. Remember, after the BPP went down in blood & flame, VVAW was declared the most dangerous political org in Amerikkka (as it used to be spelled) by the AG.

As well we were!

Werent we going to overpower the 101st Airborne w/ slingshots & fried marbles?

Must be true!

Can you imagine how we would have fared had Cheney Regime (now Obama Regime) laws had been in place?

And look how WE turned out....

Anyway- while its no doubt true ideologues are slipping in [to the army], the greatest counter to ignorance is education, & they'll get to put theory up against reality. Racism dries up & blows away when your life depends on the rainbow coalition.

Im talking folks who arent bent, defective....sadists & such. Them we gotta keep OUT of the military to begin with.

**I learned more in the Army than any other single circumstance in my life.**

**I was a far right jr hoodlum in the making when I went in.**

**Them black folk in the South have it coming, we are saving these poor people from COMMERISM!! in VN.**

**Was lke a commie? Jurys still out! AuH2o64! (I still like Barry, tho: nobodies perfect)**

**First thing I did when I got back home from VN was attend a Panther 21 rally at the Tombs jail in Manhattan.**

**Blew what was left of my non Regulation mind.....**

So, its [right-wing sentiment] real enough but lets put an historic perspective on it rather than it being seen as a new threat.....

You can find anti racist & anti imperialist sensibilities amongst thoughtful gun owners.

I dont conflate the two, especially, as I said, firearms ownership being looked at with such hostility by liberal & peace mvt types.

I mean, Ive heard this following sequence often enough: The USG is the most violent & predatory government currently looting the planet.

Therefore, part of our program is criminalizing gun ownership amongst the working class.....(when you cut thru the crap)

The “studies” backing up that notion having all the credibility of, say, World Net Daily.

It blows credibility on OTHER matters, you see.

**Good friend of mine- the best- 20 years ago had a lot to do with young Euro politicians....he told them to join their countries respective militaries.**

**I like thinkin theres Norwegian artillerymen w/ strong left/ antiauthoritarian politics.**

**Wish we had some here.**

And I object to the never ending parades of fear & panic that has become the norm in this country.

Its the snowballing of the “the paranoid style of American politics”- a must read, google it- to now infect every aspect of public life and discussion.

**9/11 was a fleabite.**

**We face far graver, far more possible destruction of our liberty from the Federal government & its police than we do from medieval goat herds, FOREIGN god fundies, home grown wackjobs, or foriegn powers.**

Even- “gasp” -Venezuela or Iran.

Our own people destroyed the middle class, gutted our manufacturing base, scrapped the Great Writ, lied us into a bankrupting public war for private profit, put most of the communications under war profiteers, & turned much of the world against us.

Compared to them .... such as the nazis a flea's flea.

I aint afraid of the enemy du jour.

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

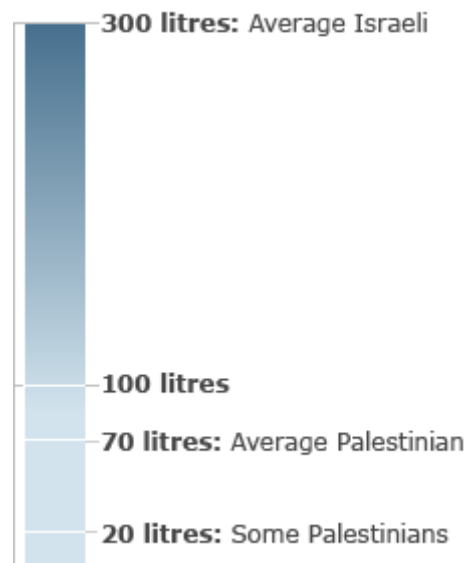
**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE WARS**

## **OCCUPATION PALESTINE**

**Zionists Deny Palestinians Water:  
“Israel Has ‘Entirely Appropriated  
The Palestinians’ Share Of The  
Jordan River’ And Uses 80% Of A  
Key Shared Aquifer”**

**“An Unnamed Israeli Soldier Says  
Rooftop Palestinian Household Water  
Tanks Are ‘Good For Target Practice’”**

**How water use compares**  
Daily consumption per person per day



Source: Amnesty

Israel is denying Palestinians access to even the basic minimum of clean, safe water, Amnesty International says.

It says that in Gaza, Israel's blockade has pushed the already ailing water and sewage system to "crisis point".

In the 112-page report, Amnesty says that on average Palestinian daily water consumption reaches 70 litres a day, compared with 300 litres for the Israelis.

It says that some Palestinians barely get 20 litres a day - the minimum recommended even in humanitarian emergencies.

While Israeli settlers in the West Bank enjoy lush gardens and swimming pools, Amnesty describes a series of Israeli measures it says are discriminating against Palestinians:

**Israel has "entirely appropriated the Palestinians' share of the Jordan river" and uses 80% of a key shared aquifer. West Bank Palestinians are not allowed to drill wells without Israeli permits, which are "often impossible" to obtain**

Rainwater harvesting cisterns are "often destroyed by the Israeli army."

Israeli soldiers confiscated a water tanker from villagers who were trying to remain in land Israel had declared a "closed military area"

An unnamed Israeli soldier says rooftop Palestinian household water tanks are "good for target practice"

Much of the land cut off by the West Bank barrier is land with good access to a major aquifer

Israeli military operations have damaged Palestinian water infrastructure, including \$6m worth during the Cast Lead operation in Gaza last winter. The Israeli-Egyptian blockade of Gaza has "exacerbated what was already a dire situation" by denying many building materials needed for water and sewage projects.

"Water is a basic need and a right, but for many Palestinians obtaining even poor-quality, subsistence-level quantities of water has become a luxury that they can barely afford," Amnesty's Donatella Rovera said.

"Israel must end its discriminatory policies, immediately lift all the restrictions it imposes on Palestinians' access to water."

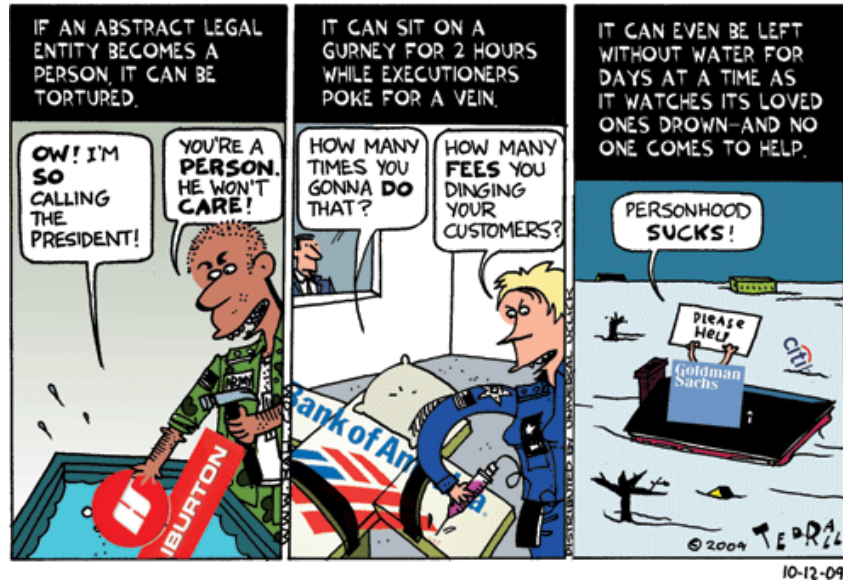
The report also criticised the Oslo Accords, which the Palestinians agreed to in 1993. It said that under them, the Palestinians gained the responsibility for managing an "insufficient" water supply and maintaining "long neglected" water infrastructure.

**Also, the deal left the Palestinians paying Israel for half of the domestic water used in the West Bank, despite the fact it is extracted from the shared aquifer.**

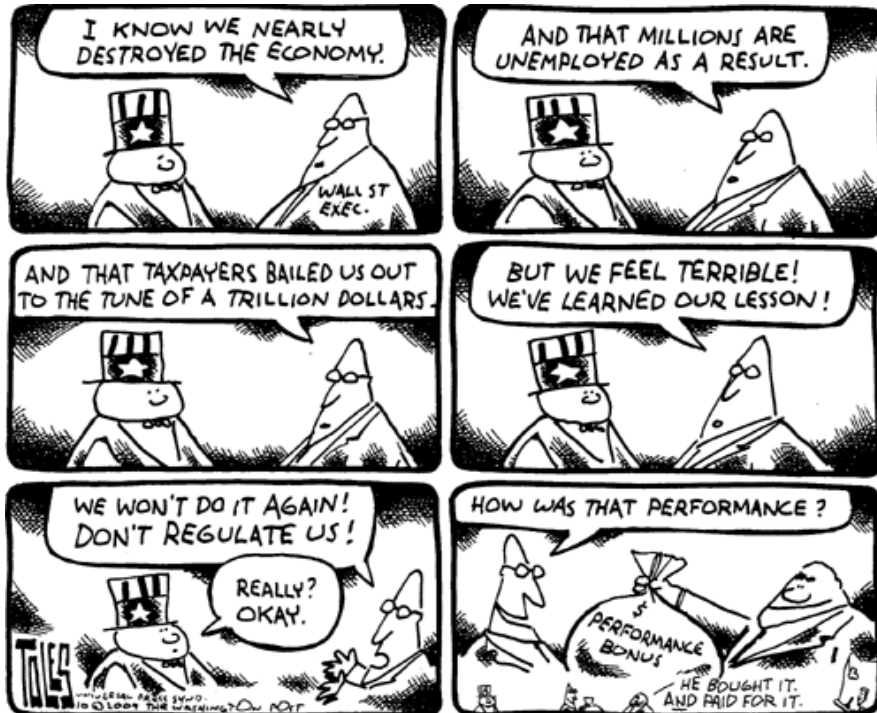
---

# DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT MAY SOON GRANT THE SAME CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WE ENJOY AS INDIVIDUALS TO CORPORATIONS, OR "CORPORATE PERSONS." BUT THOSE "PERSONS" SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHAT THEY WISH FOR...



# CLASS WAR REPORTS



## **NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER**

**Telling the truth - about the occupations or the criminals running the government in Washington - is the first reason for Traveling Soldier. But we want to do more than tell the truth; we want to report on the resistance to Imperial wars inside the armed forces.**

**Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.**

**If you like what you've read, we hope that you'll join with us in building a network of active duty organizers. <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/> And join with **Iraq Veterans Against the War to end the occupations and bring all troops home now!** ([www.ivaw.org/](http://www.ivaw.org/))**

Military Resistance distributes and posts to our website copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in an effort to advance understanding of the invasion and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. We believe this constitutes a "fair use" of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law since it is being distributed **without charge or profit** for educational purposes to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for educational purposes, in accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107. **Military Resistance has no affiliation whatsoever with the originator of these articles nor is Military Resistance endorsed or sponsored by the originators. This attributed work is provided a non-profit basis to facilitate understanding, research, education, and the advancement of human rights and social justice.** Go to: [www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml](http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml) for more information. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.

---

**If printed out, a copy of this newsletter is your personal property and cannot legally be confiscated from you. "Possession of unauthorized material may not be prohibited." DoD Directive 1325.6 Section 3.5.1.2.**

