

Military Resistance 8C13

**THIS IS HOW OBAMA BRINGS THE TROOPS
HOME:
BRING THEM ALL HOME NOW, ALIVE**



The remains of Army Sgt. Adam Ray are unloaded as the remains of Army Sgt. Dillon B. Foxx sit in a plane Feb. 12, 2010 at Dover Air Force Base. Foxx, 22, of Traverse City, Mich., died Feb. 5 in Bala Murghab, Afghanistan after an attack with an IED and Ray, of Louisville, Ky., also died in Afghanistan after an attack with an IED. (AP Photo/Steve Ruark)

**U.S. Command Admits IEDs
Can't Be Stopped:
“We Will Never Win In That
Space,” He Said. “But We Can
Lose In That Space”**

**“I Don’t Think You Can Defeat The
IED As A Weapon System. It Is Too
Easy To Use”
“It’s The Harshest Conditions Imaginable
For A Soldier”**



March 4, 2010: A U.S. Army flight medic far right, leads U.S. Marines as they rush a critically-wounded comrade to a waiting medical helicopter in Helmand province, Afghanistan. The Marine died later of his wounds, incurred when his armored vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device which also wounded another Marine, who is seen being treated at far left. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

Each bombing in Afghanistan, on average, causes 50 percent more casualties than it did three years ago, Oates said Wednesday at a House committee hearing. U.S. officials say even armored troop-transport vehicles that were designed to protect against roadside bombs are now vulnerable.

[Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Military Resistance, who sent this in.]

March 18, 2010 By Craig Whitlock, Washington Post Staff Writer & By Tom Vanden Brook, USA TODAY [Excerpts]

Taliban fighters more than doubled the number of homemade bombs they used against U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan last year, relying on explosives that are often far more primitive than the ones used in Iraq.

The embrace of a low-tech approach by Taliban-trained bombmakers -- they are building improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, out of fertilizer and diesel fuel -- has stymied a

\$17 billion U.S. counteroffensive against the devices in Iraq and Afghanistan, military officials say.

Electronic scanners or jammers, which were commonly deployed in Iraq, can detect only bombs with metal parts or circuitry.

“Technology is not going to solve this problem,” said Army Lt. Gen. Michael Oates, director of the military’s Joint IED Defeat Organization, or JIEDDO.

“I don’t think you can defeat the IED as a weapon system. It is too easy to use.”

Despite the insurgents’ crude approach, the explosive power of their IEDs is growing.

Each bombing in Afghanistan, on average, causes 50 percent more casualties than it did three years ago, Oates said Wednesday at a House committee hearing.

U.S. officials say even armored troop-transport vehicles that were designed to protect against roadside bombs are now vulnerable.

All told, the U.S. military recorded 8,159 IED incidents in Afghanistan in 2009, compared with 3,867 in 2008 and 2,677 the year before.

These bombs are the leading cause of U.S. casualties by a large margin.

It was even worse when comparing February 2010 with February 2009, attributed in part to a Marine-led offensive in the town of Marjah in Helmand province. This year, insurgents planted 721 bombs compared with 291 last year.

Those attacks killed or wounded 204 troops this February compared with 51 in February 2009.

Because of the country’s mountainous terrain, surveillance drones have a harder time spotting bombers at work. Unlike in Iraq, most of the roads are unpaved, making it more difficult to detect bombs buried in the dirt.

“It’s just a tough environment,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Todd M. Burnett, who oversees training programs for JIEDDO.

“It’s the harshest conditions imaginable for a soldier.”

Kenneth Comer, JIEDDO’s deputy director of intelligence, said insurgents in Afghanistan and Iraq were constantly adapting their bombmaking tactics to stay a step ahead of U.S. technological advances.

He said that it was unlikely that the U.S. military would ever catch up but that it needed to keep trying until broader counterinsurgency efforts take root.

The alternative, he said, would result in higher U.S. casualties and more momentum for enemy forces.

“We will never win in that space,” he said.

“But we can lose in that space.”

MORE:

**“The Accepted Practice, Hitherto,
Had Been To Seek Cover When
Coming Under Attack”
“Soldiers Have Learnt To Their Cost That
This Is Where The Bombs Are Hidden,
So They Prefer To Stay Out In The Field
And Face The Fire”**

16 March 2010 By Kim Sengupta, Independent.co.uk [Excerpts]

It has been a hard tour, the violence unremitting, the losses painful and deeply mourned.

“Out of 130 we have had four deaths and 35 casualties, four of them have been double amputees, two single amputees, it hasn't been easy, not easy at all,” said Company Sergeant Major Steve Taylor.

“I have had young lads pleading that they didn't want to go out on patrol, but you say, 'Son you have got to go through with this, this is what we do'.”

Nato equipment detects metal, so, increasingly, the bombs are being made out of minimal metal content. The charges are also being buried increasingly deeper into the soft ground of these wetlands with battery packs added later, another impediment to finding the devices.

The prevalence of the IEDs in this part of Babaji, Sangin and other parts of the bomb alley had led to a fundamental change in the way the British troops now fight.

The accepted practice, hitherto, had been to seek cover when coming under attack.

But the soldiers have learnt to their cost that this is where the bombs are hidden, so they prefer to stay out in the field and face the fire – daunting, but deemed to be safer.

Holding Babaji was a political imperative as well as a military one.

In fact the original plan did not envisage maintaining a presence. The landscape was too hostile, the resources too scarce.

But, according to Whitehall officials, Gordon Brown decreed that areas taken during the operation must be secured, and a series of patrol bases were set up along the miles of farmland.

Six months on, the Taliban have certainly not gone away. Patrols that I went out with came under fire on consecutive days.

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

U.S. Soldier Killed In Baghdad Combat

March 18 (Reuters)

A U.S. soldier was killed in combat operations in Baghdad, the U.S. military said in a statement.

More Resistance Action

March 18 (Reuters) & March 19 (Reuters)

A roadside bomb targeting an Iraqi army patrol killed one soldier and wounded three others in western Mosul, police said.

The decapitated bodies of a policeman and a soldier were found about an hour after the two were abducted by gunmen in the town of Shirqat, 300 km (190 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

Two roadside bombs wounded two soldiers, on Wednesday in Baghdad's northern Waziriya district, police said.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Richfield Mourns Death Of 28-Year-Old Native Marine Ambushed In Afghanistan

March 18, 2010 By Pat Galbincea, The Plain Dealer

RICHFIELD, Ohio -- Residents, friends and family are mourning the death of Marine Gunnery Sgt. Robert L. Gilbert II, who died Tuesday evening after being shot about a week earlier in Afghanistan.

Gilbert died on his 28th birthday in a hospital in Bethesda, Md., with his family at his bedside. He is a 2000 graduate of Revere High School, and has been a Marine the past 10 years.

He was on his fifth tour of the Middle East and second in Afghanistan when he was ambushed March 8 while with his platoon.

A bullet pierced his helmet and entered the right side of his head.

Dale Canter, the Richfield Police Chief, said Gilbert's father Robert -- who is a police officer -- flew to Germany after learning his son was in a coma. He accompanied his son back to Bethesda. Canter said the family will return with Gilbert's body on Monday or Tuesday.

"Robert's son never regained consciousness," Canter said, "so they never had communication but he was with him when he took his last breath. He's dealing with this tragedy as well as anyone could."

Revere High School art teacher Bob Pierson, who taught Gilbert for four years, said the school and community will grieve his death.

"Rob was a very friendly young man whom you could tease a little and he'd give it right back," Pierson said. "Our teachers enjoyed that kind of interaction and so did he.

He repeatedly talked about being a Marine, he said.

"I was proud of Rob and I wish I could tell him that now," Pierson said.

Hampton Roads Navy SEAL Killed In Afghanistan

March 20, 2010 By Kimball Payne, Daily Press

A Virginia Beach Navy SEAL was killed in Afghanistan on Thursday during a battle with heavily armed militants, the Navy confirmed Friday afternoon.

A Navy spokesman said Chief Special Warfare Operator Adam Lee Brown, who lived with his wife and two children in Virginia Beach, died from his injuries Thursday. Originally from Hot Springs, Ark., the 36-year-old enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1998 and joined the SEALs in 2001.

Brown graduated from Lake Hamilton High School in Percy, Ark., and attended Arkansas Tech University where he played football. In the Navy, Brown was a decorated 12-year veteran who received a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart, among other commendations.

The Navy released Brown's personal information Friday afternoon along with a statement from an unidentified leader in his command. "Adam Brown was a brave American patriot and fantastic Navy SEAL. We are deeply saddened by this tremendous loss of a fellow brother in arms and teammate," said a senior officer in his command. "Our heart goes out to the Brown family during this very difficult time and we, in the Naval Special Warfare community, will never forget the ultimate sacrifice that Adam made for our nation and its people."

Same Old Same Old



A burning tanker carrying fuel supplies for U.S. forces after it was attacked by Taliban on Jalalabad highway, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, March 19, 2010. (AP Photo/Rahmat Gul)

**Springtime In Afghanistan:
“It’s Getting Harder To See The
Insurgents,” Staff Sgt. Michael
Payne Says. “It’s Going To Get**

Worse Between Now And The Summer”

**“It Just Gets So Dark In There,”
Lambert Says. “It Concerns Me
Greatly”**

**“We Were Definitely Being Watched”
“Hours Later, A U.S. Ammunition Depot
Across The River Was Attacked With A
Rocket-Propelled Grenade And
Exploded”**

The growth creates blind spots along the river, and the floodwaters swallow up familiar paths the troops used for patrols. Lambert said the foliage gets so thick in parts that helicopters with thermal imaging technology can't even see through the trees.

3.19.2010 By Alan Gomez, USA TODAY [Excerpts]

SARKARI BAGH, Afghanistan — The leaves have returned to the trees along the banks of the Arghandab River, and row after row of grape vines and pomegranate trees have received their first irrigation floods of the year.

Winter is yielding to spring, and that means one thing to the U.S. troops in this village outside Kandahar, birthplace of the Taliban.

“It’s getting harder to see the insurgents,” Staff Sgt. Michael Payne says.

Payne and his company are among the thousands of NATO and U.S. troops filtering into the province for an offensive against the core of the Taliban’s strength.

Military leaders are positioning the new troops on the outskirts of Kandahar to prevent Taliban forces from infiltrating the city.

On Friday, troops patrolling the eastern edge of the river valley, slowly treading through knee-high brush and ducking through flourishing orchards, heard an increasingly-familiar crackle on the radio.

“They see us,” said an Afghan interpreter working with the Americans. “They are calling for help.”

The radio call did not come from other U.S. troops, but Taliban forces patrolling the other side of the river. Because the Taliban generally does not have encrypted radio channels, interpreters working for the Americans can sometimes listen in as Taliban fighters track the Americans traveling through the area.

“We were definitely being watched,” said Capt. Claude Lambert, whose Delta company could not figure out who was watching them from across the river.

Hours later, a U.S. ammunition depot across the river was attacked with a rocket-propelled grenade and exploded, seriously wounding one Afghan National Army soldier who suffered a broken arm.

The attack follows a bomber who wounded two American soldiers on Tuesday, representing a shift in tactics by the Taliban against U.S. forces in the area.

In past months, coalition and Afghan security forces have been routinely struck by improvised explosive devices, or IEDs, said Lt. Sam Casella. But coalition forces have confiscated thousands of pounds of explosives in the area, apparently forcing the Taliban to use other means to attack the Americans, he said.

“Before, it was IED, IED, IED,” Casella said. “It’s different.”

Payne and his men arrived in Arghandab Valley when the landscape was desolate. The valley, which sits across a small mountain range just north of Kandahar, is in full bloom. Visitors from Kandahar will be streaming in to take in the surroundings as a getaway from the city.

The growth creates blind spots along the river, and the floodwaters swallow up familiar paths the troops used for patrols.

On Thursday, Payne led a group of his men along the river in their armored personnel carriers to figure out where they can still navigate.

“Before, we could go anywhere,” he said. “A lot of these fields are flooded now — thick mud, holes, low branches. We’re just trying to have everything planned.”

Lambert said the foliage gets so thick in parts that helicopters with thermal imaging technology can’t even see through the trees.

Since so much of U.S. counterinsurgency strategy is dependent on foot patrols to better communicate with the locals, insurgents will be able to take quick shots at the troops and quickly hide under cover.

“It just gets so dark in there,” Lambert says. “It concerns me greatly.”

The spring bloom coincides with the beginning of the fighting season in Afghanistan.

Traditionally, major fighting halts during the harsh winters, giving both sides time to regroup and plan, said Army Lt. Col. Guy Jones, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which is responsible for the river valley.

“It’s going to get worse between now and the summer,” Jones said.

**“A Dramatic Taliban Comeback
In Kunduz” Forces U.S.
Command To Divide Their
Available Troops:
“When People Have Problems,
They Don’t Go To The
Government”
“They Go To The Taliban, And The
Taliban Decides. There Are No Files
And No Paperwork”
“They Satisfy Both Sides”**

March 19, 2010 By Keith B. Richburg, Washington Post [Excerpts]

KUNDUZ, AFGHANISTAN -- For most of the past eight years, this northern province has been relatively peaceful, far removed from the insurgency in the Taliban heartlands of Kandahar and Helmand in the south.

But the past year has brought such a dramatic Taliban comeback in Kunduz that Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, is planning to shift some of the ongoing troop reinforcements to the north of the country, the first significant American deployment to the region since the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001, U.S. officials say.

The plan for the additional 30,000 U.S. troops that President Obama is sending to Afghanistan had been to focus on the south and east of the country, where the Taliban is strongest.

But U.S. officials say that about 3,000 of those troops will be shifted to operations in the north to augment a contingent of German soldiers, which numbers about 1,100 and has been more focused on reconstruction efforts than on battling insurgents.

U.S. officials are concerned about a vital NATO supply line that runs from Tajikistan through Kunduz, amid fears that the Taliban is preparing a campaign of disruption.

They also said insurgents, under increased pressure from international forces in the south, are seeking to compensate by stepping up operations in the north in a bid to force U.S. forces to spread out and thus dilute their effectiveness. **[Read the boldface paragraphs above again please. Then re-read this paragraph. Gee, it looks like they succeeded in a bid to force U.S. forces to spread out and thus dilute their effectiveness. Duh. Fail to reinforce Kunduz: game over. Reinforce Kunduz: game over. Game over. T]**

Local officials and residents say two of the province's districts are almost completely under Taliban control.

The Afghan government is the lawful government," said Abdul Wahed Omarkhiel, the government head of one district, Chardara, which lies four miles from the provincial capital, Kunduz city.

Warning that their district is too dangerous for a foreigner to venture into, Omarkhiel, other Chardara officials and tribal elders traveled to Kunduz city to meet with a Washington Post reporter.

They said disillusionment with the Afghan government, widely seen as incompetent and corrupt, and the slow pace of reconstruction had helped create favorable conditions for a Taliban resurgence.

"When people have problems, they don't go to the government. They don't go to the police," said Moeen Marastial, a member of parliament. "They go to the Taliban, and the Taliban decides. There are no files and no paperwork."

In some ways, Kunduz was always ripe for a Taliban return.

Kunduz's population is about half Pashtun, which is unusual for a northern province. These Pashtuns -- descendants of those who relocated here in the 19th century -- have maintained links with their fellow tribespeople in southern Afghanistan and in Pakistan.

Kunduz is also home to a complex mix of armed groups, including the Hezb-i-Islami militia, loyal to warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar; the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan; and the Haqqani network, led by former mujaheddin commander Maulavi Jalaluddin Haqqani and his son. All these groups are loosely affiliated with the Taliban.

Against that backdrop, officials in Kunduz say they have just 1,500 police personnel for the entire province. "The number of police is not enough, and they are not well-equipped," said Mohammad Razaq Yaqoubi, the police chief in Kunduz. "We need 1,500 more police. And well-equipped. Then we will be able to retake those districts."

Some local officials said the Taliban was performing well as a surrogate government in the absence of any Afghan official presence, was dispensing a brand of justice that seemed swift and fair, and had tempered some of the more extreme behavior it had shown during its 5 1/2 -year rule in Afghanistan.

“They are very just solving cases,” said Abdul Ghayour, head of the Chardara council.

“They satisfy both sides. If it is a serious, serious case, they will solve it within one hour, without wasting your time.”

ENOUGH OF THIS SHIT; ALL HOME NOW



U.S. Marines from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment take cover during combat as Taliban fire on their position in Marjah in Afghanistan's Helmand province Feb. 14, 2010. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)



U.S. marines work on trenches during a visit by government officials in Marjah city, Helmand province, March 1, 2010. REUTERS/Massoud Hossaini/Pool



U.S. Marines in a dust storm at Camp Leatherneck in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, March 5, 2010. REUTERS/Shamil Zhumatov



U.S. Marine patrol in Marjah, Afghanistan, March 19, 2010. (AP Photo/Dusan Vranic)

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

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

TROOP NEWS

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



The casket of Marine Lance Corporal Eric Ward, 19, at Arlington National Cemetery March 19, 2010. Ward died Feb. 21, 2010 in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. (AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

The New Issue Of Traveling Soldier Is Out!

From Active Duty Soldiers:

#1:

“Against The Giant”

#2:
**“If The Regular Civilian Population
Could See The Shit That Goes On At
Drum, People Would
Flip Shit”**

[And More.....]

Just posted at: <http://www.traveling-soldier.org/TS28.pdf>

This issue features:

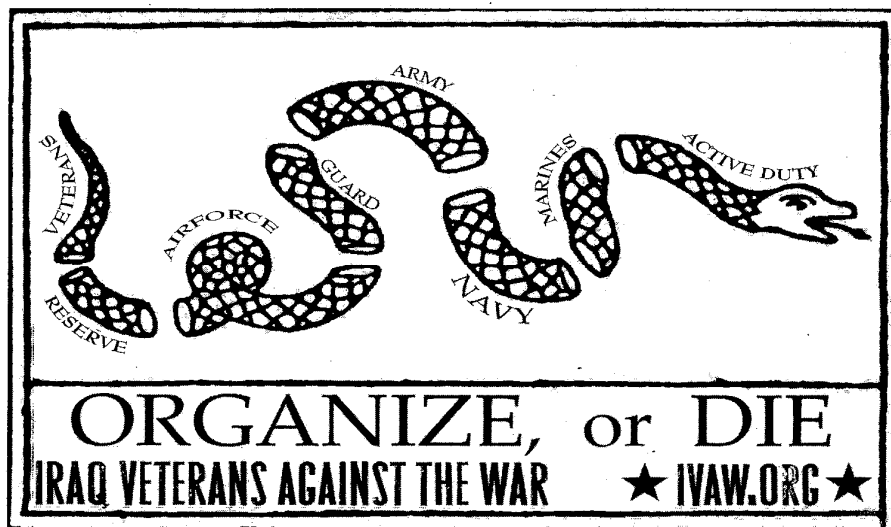
1. Against The Giant: “I Really Enjoy Reading The Paper And Knowing There Are Others Out There Who Agree With Us”
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/3.10.giant.php>
2. “If The Regular Civilian Population Could See The Shit That Goes On At Drum, People Would Flip Shit”
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/3.10.drum.php>
3. “When I First Came (Into) The Army, I Didn’t Want To Think About Having To Fight Back ... With My Leaders”
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/3.10.leader.php>
4. “I Did Not Expect To Have Traveling Soldier’s Presence In Afghanistan Corroborated By A Man In Prison In Illinois” [It Gets Around]
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/3.10.prison.php>
5. Download the new Traveling Soldier to pass it out at your school, workplace, or at nearby base.
<http://www.traveling-soldier.org/TS28.pdf>

“The single largest failure of the anti-war movement at this point is the lack of outreach to the troops.” Tim Goodrich, Iraq Veterans Against The War

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

“Thousands Are Taking To The Streets This Week In Protest Of 7 Years Of Military Occupation In Iraq”



From: Iraq Veterans Against The War
To: Military Resistance
Sent: March 18, 2010
Subject: Iraq War Anniv. protests

Dear Supporter,

March 20th begins 8th year of Iraq occupation.

Thousands are taking to the streets this week in protest of 7 years of military occupation in Iraq. About 100,000 U.S. troops remain there in addition to private military contractors.

Are you taking part in the action?

Go to <http://www.ivaw.org/node/5864> to find a protest in your area.



IVAW's "Stop Treating Us Like Dirt" mud stenciling action, 3/17 Madison, WI

Conscience and War:

Date: Sunday, March 21, 2010
Time: 4:00pm - 8:00pm
Location: The Riverside Church
490 Riverside Drive
New York, NY

The Truth Commission on Conscience in War, a national gathering of community and religious leaders, advocacy groups, and artists, will receive personal testimony from veterans and briefings from expert witnesses about:

- moral and religious questions facing soldiers both before and during combat
- moral and religious criteria of just war
- international agreements governing the justification and conduct of war
- limits of military regulations on Conscientious Objection

Honorary Host: Chaplain (Colonel) Herman Keizer, Jr., U. S. Army Chaplain, retired; Director of Chaplaincy Ministries for the Christian Reformed Church in North America; Former Chair, National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces America. Read

Commission Chair: Rev. Dr. Kaia Stern, Director of the Pathways Home Project at the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School.

Testifiers and Expert Witnesses:

Tyler Boudreau, former US Marine Captain, Iraq War veteran, and author of Packing Inferno: The Unmaking of a Marine

Joshua Casteel, Army veteran and Conscientious Objector, former Army Interrogator at Abu Ghraib; featured in the documentary, Soldiers of Conscience

Jake Diliberto, OEF and OIF US Marine Veteran, Founder of Veterans for Rethinking Afghanistan, Fuller Theological Seminary

Logan Mehl-Laituri, Army veteran with service in Iraq during OIF II, and co-founder of Centurion's Guild

Camilo Mejia, Army veteran and conscientious objector, author of Road from Ar Ramadi, featured in the documentary, Soldiers of Conscience

Nurah-Rosalie P. Jeter Amat'ullah, Executive Director, Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development and Manuscript Librarian, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy, Hartford Seminary

Dr. Camillo "Mac" Bica, Professor of Philosophy, School of Visual Arts (NYC), former Marine Corps Officer and Vietnam Veteran

Chris Hedges, former war correspondent for the New York Times and author of War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning

Rabbi Douglas E. Krantz, Congregation B'nai Yisrael; Member, Executive Board, Jewish Peace Fellowship

Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey, Associate Vice President, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, veteran, expert in just war theories in Christianity

J. E. McNeil, Executive Director, Center on Conscience & War, legal expert

Dr. Jonathan Shay, VA clinical psychiatrist, national PTSD expert

Macarthur Genius winner, and author of Achilles in Vietnam and Odysseus in America

Celeste Zappala, Member of Gold Star Families Speak Out; Mother of Sgt Sherwood Baker, Pennsylvania National Guardsman, killed in Baghdad, April 26, 2004, while searching for weapons of mass destruction.

British Military Officers And Politicians Foam At The Mouth As Google Puts “Secret” British Special Forces Base On Street View: “The MoD Has Never Made The Exact Details Of The Base Public But The Location Of The Nearest Village Is Available Online”

[Thanks to Felicity Arbuthnot, UK, who sent this in.

[She writes: “I like the bit at the end too where the MOD (Ministry Of Defense) doesn’t comment on the location of its facilities. Duuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuh, again. We’re looking at it, stoopid. Know about Google, Mr Press Officer?]

[You sure can’t get much past the Defenders of the Realm.]

19th March 2010 By Daily Mail Reporter

Military chiefs and MPs blasted internet giant Google today after its Street View service included detailed pictures of the headquarters of the SAS. [The Special Air Service or SAS is a special forces regiment of the British Army.]

Internet users can peer around the entrance to Credenhill, Herefordshire, which has never before appeared on maps for security reasons.

The base is even marked as ‘British SAS’ on the website and offers users a detailed 180 degree view of the perimeter boundary.

MPs and military top brass have demanded Google removes the pictures, claiming it makes the SAS a target for terrorist attacks.

Lib Dem Hereford MP Paul Keetch said: ‘The footage is simply not acceptable during a time of perceived terrorism. ‘There needs to be a certain degree of restraint shown by people like Google.

‘I wouldn’t want a terrorist to be inspired by these pictures and it would be appalling if any help at all was given to our enemies.

'We all know where the Palace of Westminster is, *we all know where the SAS camp is*, but the issue is if you're going into such detail in such a way that you can undermine the security of that building, that could be a problem.'

An Army insider added: 'Military chiefs have had concerns with Google Street View for some time.'

'It is highly irresponsible for military bases, especially special forces, to be pictured on the internet.'

'Google claims it blurs faces and number plates to avoid people being identified but one mistake could be very dangerous weapon for a terrorist.'

'The question is, why risk a very serious security breach for the sake of having a picture on a website?'

Residents living near the base also expressed shock at the pictures.

One man, who did not want to be named but has links with the base, said: 'The SAS conducts operations where secrecy is absolutely vital to their success.'

'It beggars belief that the base has been made vulnerable by having such detailed pictures published on the internet.'

'Terrorists could potentially use their home computers to plot an attack capable of dire consequences on the base. That's frightening.'

The images - all taken within the last six months - show a military ambulance and a police car at the gates of the base along with three guards.

Separate satellite pictures on Google Earth also show the layout of the buildings and even makes and models of cars in the car park.

The MoD has never made the exact details of the base public but the location of the nearest village is available online.

Google yesterday defended the pictures and said they had no plans to take them off their site.

Spokeswoman Laura Scott said: 'One in five people already use Google Street View for house hunting and the scheme has previously launched in 20 countries without any breach of security issues.'

'Google only takes images from public roads and this is no different to what anyone could see travelling down the road themselves, therefore there is no appreciable security risk.'

An MoD spokesman said: 'We never confirm where any of our special forces are based.'

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

I say that when troops cannot be counted on to follow orders because they see the futility and immorality of them THAT is the real key to ending a war.

-- Al Jaccoma, Veterans For Peace

“What country can preserve its liberties if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? Let them take arms.”

-- Thomas Jefferson to William Stephens Smith, 1787

Firearms are second only to the Constitution in importance; they are the peoples' liberty's teeth.
-- George Washington

"The Nixon administration claimed and received great credit for withdrawing the Army from Vietnam, but it was the rebellion of low-ranking GIs that forced the government to abandon a hopeless suicidal policy"
-- David Cortright; *Soldiers In Revolt*

It is a two class world and the wrong class is running it.
-- Larry Christensen, *Soldiers Of Solidarity & United Auto Workers*

The Why of Vietnam



Medevac helicopter in my military unit in An Khe, Vietnam 1970. Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: March 17, 2010
Subject: The Why of Vietnam

The Why of Vietnam

**The worst thing I experienced in Vietnam,
was the Lie.**

This Lie put me in a padded cell of a psychiatric hospital in 1980. It is the same Lie that the U.S. Government has been telling the American people about Iraq and Afghanistan for the past 7 to 9 years. It is the same malignant pathology that became the swarming locust that nearly destroyed Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. The "Killing Fields" are right in front of us again. The past has to be buried in order to make room for repeat performances. For the love of profiteering is the root of all evil.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
March 17, 2010

March 20th will be the 7th anniversary of the Iraq War Lie.

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) T)

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**Censored By The Obama
Regime:
Award-Winning Journalist
Mohammed Omer Kept From
Entering U.S. For Speaking Tour
On Conditions In Palestine:
Demanding Omer Be Heard,
Chicagoans Protest — And Proceed
With Event:
7:00 pm, Monday, April 5th
At The Newberry Library,
60 W. Walton, Chicago:
MOHAMMED OMER (Via Live Satellite Or
Skype) And ALI ABUNIMAH,
Author, One Country, And Founder,
Electronic Intifada.Net**

From: Mohammed Omer
To: Military Resistance
Sent: March 19, 2010
Subject: PRESS RELEASE

CHICAGO, IL— Effectively canceling a planned speaking tour, the U.S. consulate in the Netherlands has put an extended hold on the visa application of award-winning Palestinian journalist and photographer Mohammed Omer, scheduled to speak on conditions in Palestine, on April 5th in Chicago.

In 2008, Omer became the youngest recipient of the prestigious Martha Gellhorn Prize for Journalism, for his firsthand reportage of life in the besieged Gaza strip.

As his prize citation explained, “Everyday, he reports from a war zone, where he is also a prisoner.”

“He is a profoundly humane witness to one of the great injustices of our time. He is the voice of the voiceless... Working alone in extremely difficult and often dangerous circumstances, (Omer has) reported unpalatable truths validated by powerful facts.”

Upon attempting to return to Gaza following his acceptance of the Gellhorn award in London, Omer was detained, interrogated, and beaten by the Shin Bet Israeli security force for hours; and eventually hospitalized with cracked ribs and respiratory problems. He has since resided in the Netherlands and continues to undergo medical treatment there for his subsequent health problems.

The U.S. consulate has now held his visa application for an extended period of time, effectively canceling a planned U.S. speaking tour without the explanation that a denial would require.

In recent years, numerous foreign scholars and experts have been subject to visa delays and denials that have prohibited them from speaking and teaching in the U.S.—a process the American Civil Liberties Union describes as “Ideological Exclusion,” which they say violates Americans’ First Amendment right to hear constitutionally protected speech by denying foreign scholars, artists, politicians and others entry to the United States.

Foreign nationals who have recently been denied visas include Fulbright scholar Marixa Lasso; respected South African scholar and vocal Iraq War critic Dr. Adam Habib; Iraqi doctor Riyadh Lafta, who disputed the official Iraqi civilian death numbers in the respected British medical journal The Lancet; and Oxford’s Tariq Ramadan, who has just received a visa to speak in the United States after more than five years of delays and denials.

Fellow Gellhorn recipient Dahr Jamail, expressed his disbelief at Omer’s visa hold. “Why would the US government, when we consider the premise that we have ‘free speech’ in this country, place on hold a visa for Mohammed Omer, or any other journalist planning to come to the United States to give talks about what they report on? This is a travesty, and the only redemption available for the U.S. government in this situation is to issue Omer’s visa immediately, and with a deep apology.”

Omer was to visit Houston, Santa Fe, and Chicago, where local publisher Haymarket Books was to host his Newberry Library event, “Reflections on Life and War in Gaza,” alongside a broad set of interfaith religious, community, and political organizations (listed below).

Rather than cancel the meeting, organizers are calling on supporters to write letters and emails calling for the U.S. consulate’s approval of Omer’s visa.

They are also proceeding with the event as planned, via live satellite or skype, if necessary. A petition currently underway will also be announced soon.

U.S. consulate information:
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U.S. Embassy in The Hague
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2514 EJ
The Netherlands
T: +31 70 310-2209
F: +31 70 361-4688
ConsularAmster@state.gov

Background on Mohammed Omer:

Mohammed Omer was born and raised in the Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza strip. He maintains the website Rafah Today and is a correspondent for the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs.

His home in Rafah was crushed by an Israeli bulldozer while the family was inside, seriously injuring his mother. Yet, as Omer explained in an article he wrote upon winning the award, "My ambition was to get the truth out, not as pro-Palestinian or anti-Israeli, but as an independent voice and witness." His reportage features interviews with regular Gazans attempting to survive amidst bombing, home demolitions, and the crippling economic blockade, which has created devastating shortages of electricity, water, fuel, and other necessities for survival.

Omer was to visit Chicago to discuss, with Ali Abunimah, Chicago-based author of *One Country: A Bold Proposal to End the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, his reportage, personal experience, and the struggle for Palestinian rights. If the delay on his visa continues, he will take part in the event via live satellite connection or skype.

**Mohammed Omer, Ali Abunimah, and Dahr Jamail are available for select interviews. To request, contact: Sarah Macaraeg, 312-315-8476, sarah@haymarketbooks.org

Additional background:

Haaretz: <http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/999330.html>

ACLU: <http://www.aclu.org/national-security/ideological-exclusion>

Chronicle of Higher Education: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/09/25/lasso>

Rafah Today: <http://www.rafahtoday.org/>

Reflections on Life and War in Gaza: A Discussion with Palestinian Journalist
Mohammed Omer

Monday, April 5th at 7:00 pm at the Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton, Free

Train: Chicago Red and Brown, Clark/Division Red. Bus: #66 Chicago, #29 State

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In cooperation with: American Friends Service Committee-Chicago, Committee for a Just Peace in Palestine and Israel, Episcopal Diocese of Chicago-Peace and Justice Committee, the International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network, International Socialist Organization, International Solidarity Movement-Chicago, Islamic Medical Association of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Jewish Voice for Peace, Middle East Task Force of Chicago Presbytery, National Lawyers Guild-Loyola, Neighbors For

Peace, Students for Justice in Palestine-DePaul and UIC chapters, and Ta'anit Tzedek—Jewish Fast for Gaza.

Facebook:

Chicago event details

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=10150127461370195&ref=ts>

We Demand Mohammed Omer Be Heard!

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=10150140022065508&ref=mf>

For further information contact:

Sarah Macaraeg, 312-315-8476

sarah@haymarketbooks.org

“The world is not dangerous because of those who do harm but because of those who look at it without doing anything.”

Albert Einstein

www.rafahtoday.org

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

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: Name, I.D., withheld unless you request publication. Same address to unsubscribe. Phone: 888.711.2550

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