

## Military Resistance 8C4



**Prescription For Death:  
“I Feel Flat Out That Psychiatrists  
Are Directly Responsible For  
Deaths In Our Military, For Some  
Of These Suicides,” Said Retired  
Col. Bart Billings:  
Soldiers Father Says “What Killed  
Him Was All Those Drugs They Gave  
Him”  
Army Won’t Say How Many Were Given  
Deadly Drugs**

Billings, who testified Feb. 24 before Congress on the topic, believes the military’s spike in suicides over the past few years directly correlates with the types and quantities of psychotropic medications often prescribed for post-traumatic stress disorder and other psychiatric problems.

Doctors at Fort Carson, Colo., released Pfc. Ryan Alderman from a military psychiatric ward with a stack of prescriptions for antidepressants, anticonvulsants and antipsychotics.

A week later, the troubled soldier added to that cocktail some drugs he wasn't prescribed — painkillers and Valium.

And early on the morning of Nov. 20, 2008, the 21-year-old was found dead in his barracks.

An autopsy ruled his death a suicide — one of at least 128 the Army reported in 2008.

But his father disagrees and thinks the death may have been an accidental overdose.

"They had him in a stupor where he could hardly talk. He was slurring his words. What killed him was all those drugs they gave him," said Tim Alderman, who visited the Fort Carson psychiatric hospital a week before his son died.

"He'd talked about suicide, but I don't think that's what he did here," the elder Alderman said. "I think it was accidental."

Such deaths fuel criticisms of psychiatric drugs in general and military psychiatry in particular.

"I feel flat out that psychiatrists are directly responsible for deaths in our military, for some of these suicides," said retired Col. Bart Billings, a former Army psychologist. "I think it's criminal, what they are doing."

Billings, who testified Feb. 24 before Congress on the topic, believes the military's spike in suicides over the past few years directly correlates with the types and quantities of psychotropic medications often prescribed for post-traumatic stress disorder and other psychiatric problems.

Federal regulators have studied such suicide concerns extensively:

- In May 2007, the Food and Drug Administration ordered all antidepressants to carry a "black box" warning about the increased risk for suicide or suicidal thoughts in adults ages 18 to 24.
- In February 2008, the FDA said anticonvulsants double the risk of suicidal thoughts and behavior, though it stopped short of requiring drug makers to put a "black box" warning on the drugs.
- Neurontin, one of the military's top-selling psychiatric drugs over the past decade, is the subject of a series of lawsuits filed against its manufacturer, Pfizer, alleging that the drug directly caused suicides. None of those cases has gone to trial.

**The number of military suicide victims who may have been taking antidepressants or anticonvulsants is unclear.**

The Army repeatedly has denied a Military Times Freedom of Information Act request for that data.

---

## IRAQ WAR REPORTS

# Odious Odierno Officially Asks For Combat Forces In Iraq Beyond The Obama Deadline



Odierno at the Pentagon (AFP/Mandel Ngan)

**If the brigade in northern Iraq is indeed kept in Iraq past the deadline, there will be a fan dance under which it no longer will be called a combat unit, but like the six other combat brigades being kept past the deadline, will be called an advisory unit.**

February 25, 2010 By Thomas E. Ricks, FOREIGN POLICY [Excerpts].

**Thomas E. Ricks covered the U.S. military for the Washington Post from 2000 through 2008.**

\*\*\*\*\*

In a move that could force President Obama to break his vow to get all combat troops out of Iraq by August of this year, his top commander in Iraq recently officially requested keeping a combat brigade in the northern part of the country beyond that deadline, three people close to the situation said Wednesday.

Gen. Raymond Odierno asked for a brigade to try to keep the peace in the disputed city of Kirkuk, but only got a polite nod from the president when the issue was raised during his recent meetings in Washington, according to two of the people familiar with the discussions.

**If the brigade in northern Iraq is indeed kept in Iraq past the deadline, there will be a fan dance under which it no longer will be called a combat unit, but like the six other combat brigades being kept past the deadline, will be called an advisory unit.**

**I can imagine the press releases that will follow-"Three U.S. Army soldiers were killed last night in an advisory operation . . . ."**

The feeling in the corridors of the White House is that the general is asking the right questions, but a bit clumsily, and certainly too early for political comfort, especially in Iraq, which is about to hold a national election.

**So I suspect the administration's bottom line for Odierno was, Hey, Shreko, put a sock in it until after the Iraqi elections, because what we need is a new Iraqi government to be formed so it can quietly begin talking to us about re-visiting some of those 2008 SOFA agreements about future troop levels.**

---

## **Big Surprise!**

### **“Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki Recently Unveiled Guidelines That Iraqi Journalists And Press Freedom Advocates Call Authoritarian”**

February 26, 2010 By Ernesto Londoño, Washington Post Foreign Service [Excerpts]

Although freedom of the press is guaranteed in Iraq's 2005 constitution, lawmakers have not passed legislation to enforce it. Government officials and private citizens have increasingly resorted to litigation to muffle critical reporting. And a commission that reports to Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki recently unveiled guidelines that Iraqi journalists and press freedom advocates call authoritarian.

"This can be described as disastrous," Khadum said, referring to the new rules. "We are now waiting and watching to see who is going to become the first prey."

The guidelines that Iraq's Communications and Media Commission issued last month bar journalists from withholding the names of sources and threaten action against those who publish information that incites violence -- a criterion that is ill-defined. The rules also say news organizations must apply for licenses, register equipment with the commission and provide a list of employees.

The Committee to Protect Journalists called the guidelines "an alarming return to authoritarianism."

---

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS**

### **Soldier From 3 RIFLES Killed Near Sangin On 5 March**

6 Mar 10 Ministry of Defence

It is with sadness that the Ministry of Defence must confirm the death of a soldier from 3 RIFLES.

The soldier died from wounds received as a result of an explosion which occurred near Sangin, in Helmand Province, during the morning of 5 March 2010.

---

### **Navajo Marine Remembered**

Feb. 25, 2010 by Andy Harvey, 12 News

Lance Cpl. Alejandro Yazzie always wanted to be a Marine. As a child, he would play with his brothers, pretending they were in the military. Yazzie grew up near Rock Point, Ariz., on the Navajo Reservation. His mother Eva Yazzie told 12 News she always supported his decision.

"I used to say why do you want to join the Marines. He says, 'Mom, that's going to be my goal. I want people to see me in that black uniform,' " said Eva Yazzie.

The 23-year old was killed in action February 16th. The 2004 Rock Point High graduate died while supporting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. That's the site of a major offensive by U.S. and Afghan forces against the Taliban.

Lance Cpl. Yazzie joined the Marines during the summer of 2009. This was his first deployment. He was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, in Camp Pendleton, California. His family said he also enlisted to honor his grandfather who always wanted to be a Marine.

"I'm a proud mom. I'm not proud of what happened, but I'm going to miss my baby," said Yazzie.

While growing up, family members nicknamed the young Marine "Tough" because he wasn't afraid to do anything. Yazzie loved the outdoors and especially enjoyed bull riding.

"He'd go horseback riding, breaking horses," said Pete Begay, Yazzie's step-father.

Family members said Yazzie was an easy-going person who loved to joke around and tease his sisters. He would even tease his step-father for being in the Army.

"He always picked on me saying 'you know for us Marines we lead the way' and I said yeah, that's pretty much true, " said Begay.

Before he joined the Marines, Yazzie got married. He was expecting his first child to be born in July. The Navajo Marine always loved visiting home, driving from San Diego to Rock Point when he was on military leave.

Yazzie grew up in a remote part of north eastern Arizona where most homes don't have electricity and running water. It was this way of life family members said Lance Cpl. Yazzie cherished, living off the land and caring for livestock. But perhaps his best past time was spending time with his family.

"I'll never see him again, but in a way I'm deep down proud of him for what he's done. He served our country, our people, and our community," said a tearful Begay.

"I want people to know that he was my hero," said Yazzie.

On Friday, Yazzie's family will say goodbye. Funeral services will be held in Farmington, N.M., at the Civic Center starting at 9 a.m. He will be buried near his community on the Navajo Reservation.

An account has been established at Bank of America to help pay for expenses under the name "Eva Yazzie" (account # 439003437393).

Lance Cpl. Yazzie is survived by his wife, parents, three brothers, a sister and his grandmother.

**He is the 11th Navajo to die serving in either Iraq or Afghanistan.**

---

## **A Son, A Friend, A Proud Marine**

February 21, 2010 By Sherry Long, Times Leader

SCRANTON – When 19-year old Dominic Rodriguez's mother told him Thursday afternoon that U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Larry Michael Johnson was killed earlier that day in Afghanistan he went numb.

He couldn't believe that he would never see his lifelong childhood friend again.

"It is such a sad thing when I heard about it. I was bawling my eyes out when I heard about it," Rodriguez said Saturday afternoon, noting he regrets not going to see Johnson when he came home for a visit before being deployed overseas. "I didn't go see him because I didn't want this to happen. Now it's kicking me in the butt because I should've."

Johnson, 19, died in the Helmand province in Afghanistan Thursday after being involved in a hostile incident involving the enemy after only being in the country for four months, according to 2nd Marine Division spokesman 1st Lt. Evan Pettyjohn.

Johnson, who joined the Marine Corps after graduating from Scranton High School in 2008, was deployed to Afghanistan in October as part of the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The Johnson family met his body at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware on Saturday. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Rodriguez and Johnson grew up together from the time they were both 3-year olds in the Hilltop Manor Apartments in South Scranton.

He described his friend as a laid back person who enjoyed hanging out with his buddies as they watched MTV.

"He was never mad ever. He went through a lot in his life and never did he let that bring him down. He was always with a smile on his face," Rodriguez said.

Although both were the same age, Rodriguez looked up to Johnson as a role model. He recalled just speaking with Johnson a week ago as they instant messaged each other and Johnson encouraged Rodriguez to follow his dream of enlisting in the Air Force.

He thinks the best way for people to honor Johnson is to work to accomplish their dreams.

"I think after this that life is way too short because the kid is gone now. I think they will look at Larry and see what an inspiration he was because of how much he did, how much he has been through in his life. Now he gives hope to a lot of people who are just like him," Rodriguez said.

And their mothers quickly became fast friends, too. In fact, Rodriguez's mom, Amy, calls Johnson's mom, Johanna, a sister.

She was with the Johnson family Thursday afternoon shortly after they received a visit from Marine Corps representatives.

"My heart just aches for the family right now," she said.

She noted how the Johnson family is unbelievably close. Larry Johnson was the third of four children. He has two older sisters and a younger brother.

"He loved his mom so much. He wanted the best for his mom. His mother would walk over fire for him. He was their hero. They loved him so much," Amy Rodriguez said.

She noted that Johnson purchased his mother a brand new vehicle recently so she had reliable transportation.

Scranton High School Principal Eric Schaeffer recalled Johnson as a polite, friendly student who looked forward to joining the Marines.

"I can picture him walking down the hall – blond hair and bright blue eyes, always smiling," he said.

Schaeffer recalled how proud Johnson's mother was of her son when she dropped off a picture of him in his Marine uniform at the school earlier in the week.

Johnson's younger brother is a sophomore at the high school. Schaeffer said the school's counseling staff is prepared to meet with any students, staff or teachers who need someone to talk to.

---

## **Australian Soldier Wounded In Afghanistan**

March 06, 2010 AAP

AN Australian soldier in Afghanistan has suffered a hand injury while trying to defuse improvised explosive devices.

The soldier was destroying two devices after they were discovered by an Australian patrol in the Chora valley region of Oruzgan province on Thursday.

He was treated at the scene, and Australian commander Major General John Cantwell said he has since been taken to hospital with minor injuries.

"We have since moved him back to the ISAF medical facility at Tarin Kowt so that a specialist can determine if there will be any permanent damage from the wound," Major General Cantwell said.

---

## **“The Most Difficult Part Of Leading A Four-Day Mission In Eastern Afghanistan Was Persuading Afghan Soldiers To Leave Their Base”**

[Thanks to William Bowles, who sent this in. Check out his terrific website at: <http://williambowles.info/wordpress/> ]

March 3, 2010 AFP & The News [Excerpts]

For Lieutenant Ed Maloney, the most difficult part of leading a four-day mission in eastern Afghanistan was persuading Afghan soldiers to leave their base in the first place.

It took three hours of negotiations on the night before departure to convince the Afghans the expedition to Sherzad district in Nangarhar province was worthwhile.

"Their predecessors had a tough time in this district, and these soldiers thought it was unnecessary and too risky," Maloney said.

"Of course we can't order them to do things, but we told them it was exactly the sort of security mission they needed to do and which should impress their bosses."

Police officers led the unit when out on patrol -- including through the famous village of Gandamak where British soldiers were massacred in 1842 -- with US troops in the middle of the formation and Afghan soldiers behind.

"The army are sometimes reluctant to go out, but have better discipline and fight better when needed," said Maloney.

"The police will go anywhere but, as everybody knows, they have a bigger corruption problem and are poor in combat."

The difference between the two forces is clear in their weaponry. Police carry a wide variety of old Soviet or Chinese-made arms, while soldiers are issued with the modern, NATO-supplied M-16 machine gun.

Getting the police and army, who often have fractious relations, to work together is tricky for US officers like Maloney, a lanky 25-year-old Texan.

**When the unit pursued a suspected IED bomber during the Sherzad mission, the police told US troops that one mud-walled compound was not worth investigating.**

**Afghan soldiers insisted on a search -- and discovered 23 kilogrammes (50 pounds) of "black tar" heroin and an illegal arms cache.**

**Nearly 70 per cent of Afghan police recruits drop out during training, the top US army officer in charge of shaping the new Afghan security forces said on Tuesday.**

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

**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. Marines from Bravo Company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines in the town of Marjah, in Nad Ali district of Helmand province February 17, 2010. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic



U.S. Marines from Bravo Company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines look for a Taliban sniper from inside a cotton workshop in Marjah, Helmand province, February 19, 2010. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic



U.S. Marines from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment take cover in a canal and battle the Taliban in Marjah in Afghanistan's Helmand province on Saturday Feb. 20, 2010. (AP Photo/David Guttenfelder)



U.S. Marines from Bravo Company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines take cover through a canal during a heavy gun battle in Helmand province February 21, 2010. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic



U.S. Marines from Bravo Company of the 1st Battalion, 6th Marines take cover during a heavy gun battle in Helmand province February 21, 2010. REUTERS/Goran Tomasevic

---

## **TROOP NEWS**

**“Biopsies Of More Than 50 Soldiers’ Lungs Found “They Had Constrictive Bronchiolitis, Which Is Usually A Rare Condition”**

**“Many Of The Symptoms Stem From Exposure To Burn Pits In The Combat Zone”**

3.8.2010 Army Times [Excerpts]

Since the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan began, hundreds of troops have been diagnosed with shortness of breath and asthmalike symptoms — but often, nothing shows up on a lung X-ray or scan to determine the problem.

Often, the service members go to sick call when they realize they can't run as fast as they used to.

Dr. Robert Miller, associate professor of Allergy, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, biopsied more than 50 soldiers' lungs and found they had constrictive bronchiolitis, which is usually a rare condition.

The troops — and Miller — believe many of the symptoms stem from exposure to burn pits in the combat zone.

---

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



A wounded U.S. Marine airborne over Helmand province, Afghanistan March 5, 2010. The unidentified Marine survived an improvised explosive device blast. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

---

## **Thousands Of Military Spouses Fucked Over As DoD Kills Their Tuition Program Without Notice:**

# **“Not A Single Woman I’ve Talked To Has Been Notified. That’s Criminal”**

## **“‘If We Don’t Fight For Ourselves, Nobody’s Going To Fight For Us,’ Said Navy Wife Jacquelynne Blazon, A Demonstration Organizer”**

3.8.2010 By Karen Jowers, Army Times [Excerpts]

An abrupt sixfold increase in the number of military spouses enrolling in the My Career Advancement Account program caused the sudden halt of the program Feb. 16, according to a defense official.

About 95,000 spouses enrolled in the first six weeks of the year for a program that, until then, rarely received more than 10,000 applications a month. The spike overwhelmed the system and threatened to drain the program’s budget, said Tommy Thomas, deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

Military spouses — who were depending on the program to help pay for classes for which they had already registered — could not be told about the shutdown ahead of time because “given the gravity of the situation, there was no time for a warning,” Pentagon spokeswoman Air Force Maj. April Cun-ningham said.

The online MyCAA program provides up to \$6,000 in tuition assistance to help spouses pursue education, training, licenses, certificates and degrees leading to portable careers. Officials said they hope to resume the program in several months, though no date has been set.

The MyCAA program expanded last March after a limited pilot program. Of the 133,000 spouses who applied for the program before the surge of applications early this year, 98,000 had been approved for assistance.

**Frustrated spouses learned about the shutdown just as they tried to request funding for classes that start within a month.**

**They cannot request payment for classes for which they have already registered.**

**Some spouses said they had reduced financial aid loans from other sources in expectation of getting funding from MyCAA, and they now must scramble to figure out if they can come up with money for their education.**

**Spouses should call Military OneSource at (800) 342-9647 and “request consultation with a career counselor to discuss alternative funding options,”**

**Cunningham said — although many spouses who have called say they've been unable to get their questions answered.**

In the days immediately following the halt of the program, Thomas acknowledged receiving “concerns expressed by many program participants.” After some spouses from Virginia Beach contacted Rep. Glenn Nye, D-Va., he sent a letter to Defense Secretary Robert Gates, noting that thousands of spouses are waiting for approval and assistance from MyCAA.

After receiving information from defense officials, Nye said in a statement that “the Pentagon needs to take action to help military spouses who were counting on this program so they aren't forced to cancel or postpone their education plans.”

**One group is organizing a demonstration in Norfolk, Va.**

**“If we don't fight for ourselves, nobody's going to fight for us,” said Navy wife Jacquelynne Blazon, a demonstration organizer and student at Tidewater Community College facing a cutoff in her MyCAA funding.**

**“I don't feel we're being told the honest truth,” she said. “I cannot fathom for a millisecond that (the Defense Department), in creating this program, couldn't foresee that this wasn't going to take off” in popularity.**

A date for the demonstration has not been set.

“Something happened, but that doesn't mean their promise to us shouldn't be honored,” said Blazon, whose husband is an E-5 assigned to Naval Station Norfolk.

“And not a single woman I've talked to has been notified. That's criminal.”

## **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/))**

## 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

**A revolution is always distinguished by impoliteness, probably because the ruling classes did not take the trouble in good season to teach the people fine manners.**  
-- Trotsky, History Of The Russian Revolution

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

## 1 Out Of 3



Photograph by Mike Hastie

From: Mike Hastie  
To: Military Resistance  
Sent: March 01, 2010  
Subject: 1 out of 3

**1 out of 3**

**Nearly 1 out of 3 Freshman entering high schools across America do not graduate.**  
**1 out of 4 children in America are on federal food stamps.**  
**50% of all taxes Americans pay go to National Offense.**  
**The go-to guy.**  
**Bombs and bullets are more important than food and health care.**

In Oregon alone,  
400,000 people live below the poverty line.  
Every time a U.S. jet flies off the assembly line,  
thousands of children have less food to eat.  
Every time a U.S. jet flies off the assembly line,  
children in the Middle East never eat again.  
This is not sustainable.  
But, more important,  
the vast majority of Americans are freely walking  
into an apathetic gas chamber.  
That's what happens when you stay in the  
freezer too long.  
You reap what you sow.  
Ever been arrested or thrown down by the cops for protesting?  
Are you kidding,  
it's not that bad.

Mike Hastie  
U.S. Army Medic  
Vietnam 1970-71  
March 1, 2010

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

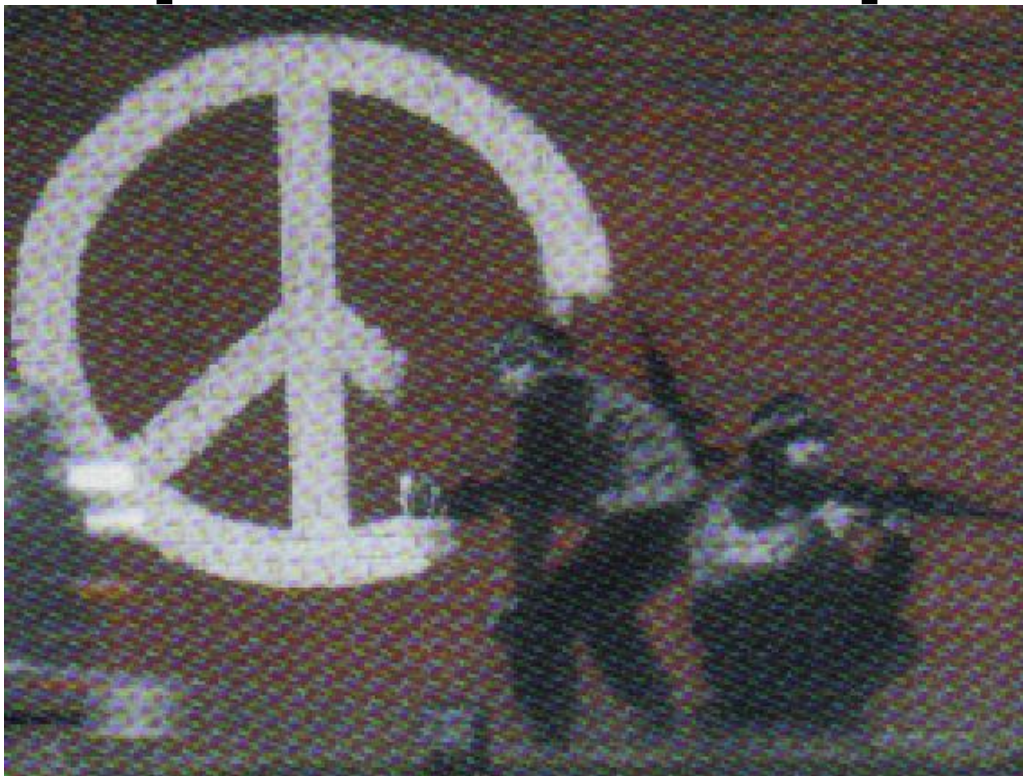
**POLITICIANS CAN'T BE COUNTED ON TO HALT  
THE BLOODSHED**

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

**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

## You Can't Eat A Soccer Ball: [SOLDIERS' CLASSICS]



Tactical Painting  
From Soldier X 4.25.05

**From GI SPECIAL 3B13: 4.28.05 [By Garrett Reppenhagen, Iraq Veterans Against The War: name omitted to shield from retaliation by command.]**

**From: Soldier X: Iraq**  
**To: GI Special**  
**Sent: April 25, 2005**  
**Subject: You Can't Eat A Soccer Ball**

In the Autumn of 2004 in Baquabah, Iraq we made a lot of effort after the razing of Fallujah to win back some support of the Iraqi people.

A general distrust grew among the local nationals and it was important to not lead into the elections with negative backlash. There was a surge of insurgent recruiting due to the injustice of destroying Fallujah and we wanted to take the wind out of it.

One of the officer think tanks perched high above real action in Iraq, and high above any common sense, decided it would be a great idea to hand out free soccer balls to the towns in the area.

I thought it was a strange idea from the start.

When we arrived in Iraq we were never greeted with flower baring women and showered with thanks. What we encountered when we confronted the Iraqi people were beggars and peddlers. The kids would approach us with offers on knives, old Iraqi money, whiskey, hashish, bootleg porn, and even prostitution.

Most would beg. First for money. They could buy anything they wanted with an American dollar. Then they would beg for food. It was obvious they were starving for something more nutritious than what their diet allowed.

Then they would beg for clothes, shoes, and school supplies.

I even asked to look in one child's backpack to cure a curiosity on what the school supplies he owned and what the schools were teaching him.

He explained that his father burned the books because it was getting cold outside. Coal is expensive and the Iraqi desert is not in abundance with wood.

After these questions were exhausted they would settle for anything they could see and ask for. All day it was "Mhister, mhister, gimmie mhister" and "for you one dollar mhister". Never once was I begged for a soccer ball.

Alas here we were with an entire train car full of soccer balls, however the one missing ingredient was a pump to inflate them.

Thousands of deflated soccer balls.

You would think that someone would raise a stink about it and get some way to inflate the balls, but not in this army.

This army is commanded by fear.

**No one was willing to explain to higher that shit was all fucked up. That would mean it was either their fault or the person they are complaining to. And since the person they complain to is of higher rank, it means that the person complaining is responsible.**

But an order is an order and "You will hand out those fucking balls!"

So here we are, a group of sixteen soldiers with deflated soccer balls piled up so high in the humvees we couldn't get to our ammunition.

We drove through the canal crossed Iraqi villages handing out useless sagging plastic to a bunch of hungry children. At first they were grateful. Then some confusion set in. Some tried to play with them by kicking them around and into the sky. They threw them like frisbees and wore them like hats. We shrugged and moved on to the next town away from the pleas "Mhister, foood mhister"

As we completed our trip and ran out of balls we had to drive through the same towns on the way back.

Deflated soccer balls littered the ground, some were thrown onto houses and in palm trees.

The children at first were not to be seen. But around one corner we were welcomed by the grateful Iraqi children with a rain of rocks.

**Many of the soldiers get upset and angry at the kids. They point weapons at them and some even fire off warning shots to scare them.**

**I just shrink into my turret and let the stones fall about my helmet and weapon shield.**

**I never blamed them.**

**Maybe we will be greeted with flowers when we stop handing out destruction, death, fear and deflated waste.**

Soldier X

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

**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**

**March 7, 1932;**

# **Five Ford Workers Killed And Nineteen Wounded By Police And Company “Security” Armed With Pistols, Rifles And A Machine Gun**



Carl Bunin Peace History March 3-9

**The Ford Hunger March began on Detroit’s East Side and proceeded 10 miles seeking relief during the Great Depression.**

Facing hunger and evictions, workers had formed neighborhood Unemployed Councils. Along the route, the marchers were given good wishes from Detroit Mayor Frank Murphy as well as two motorcycle escorts, and thousands joined the marchers along the route.

At the Detroit city limit, the marchers were met by Dearborn police and doused by fire hoses.

Despite the cold weather, they continued to the Employment Office of the Ford River Rouge plant, from which there had been massive layoffs.

**Five workers were killed and nineteen wounded by police and company “security” armed with pistols, rifles and a machine gun.**

According to Dave Moore, one of the marchers, “That blood was black blood and white blood.

One of the photos that was published in the Detroit Times, but never seen since, shows a black woman, Mattie Woodson, wiping the blood off the head of Joe DiBlasio, a white man who lay there dying . . . It’s been 75 years, but when you drive down Miller Road today, your car tires will be moistened with the blood that those five shed.”

Grave markers with the words “His Life for the Union” pay tribute to them in Woodmere Cemetery on Detroit’s West Side.

---

## **March 7, 1965: Noble Anniversary: The First March From Selma: A Day That That Shook The World**



Alabama police attack Selma-to-Montgomery marchers

Carl Bunin Peace History; Americaslibrary.gov [Excerpts]

March 7, 1965

When 525 people started a planned march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday March 7, 1965, it was called a demonstration. When state troopers met the demonstrators at the edge of the city by the Edmund Pettus Bridge, that day became known as “Bloody Sunday.”

In Selma, African Americans made up almost half the population, but only two percent were registered voters. Discrimination and intimidation tactics aimed at blacks kept them from registering and voting. The demonstrators marched to demand fairness in voter registration.

The sheriff warned the people that they had two minutes to break up the march, but the deputies attacked sooner. The demonstrators were tear-gassed, clubbed, spat on, whipped, trampled by horses, and jeered by others for demanding the right to register to vote.

Television and newspapers carried pictures of the event that became known as “Bloody Sunday.”

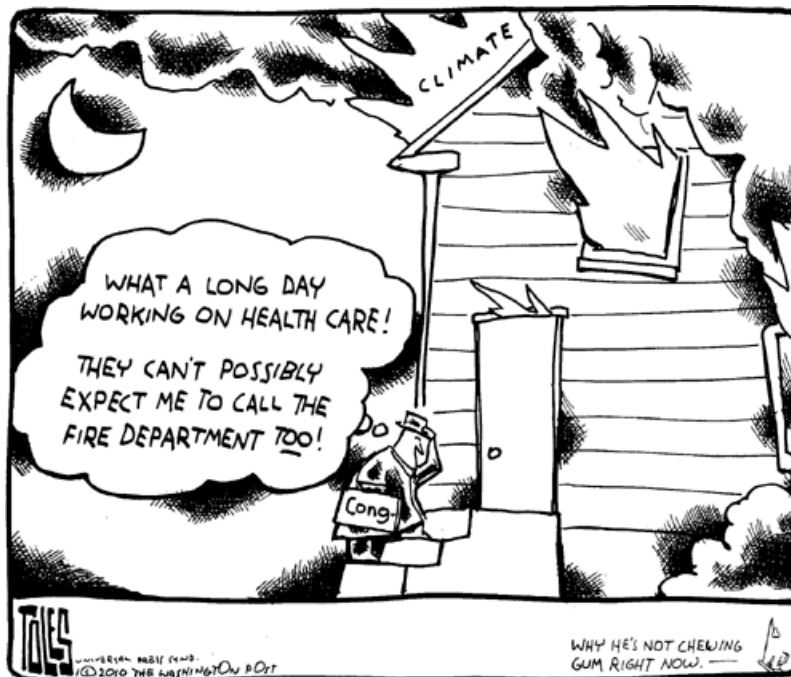
The images sickened, outraged, and electrified people throughout the country.

Within 48 hours, demonstrations in support of the marchers were held in 80 cities. Many of the nation's religious and lay leaders, including Martin Luther King, flew to Selma. After one more failed attempt, King led a peaceful march from Selma to Montgomery. Congress responded to these events by enacting the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



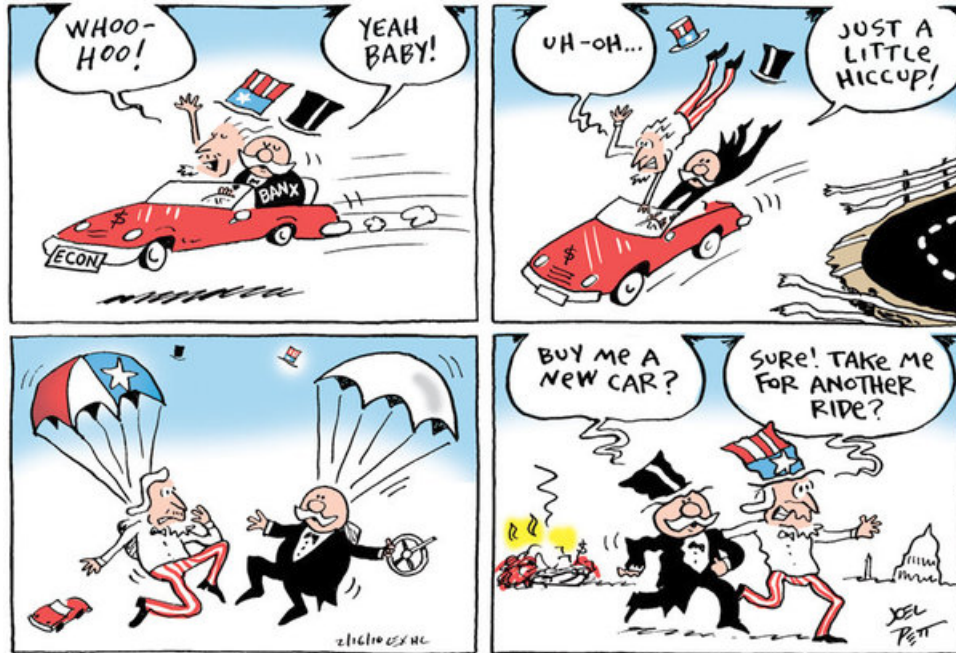
---

## DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**Military Resistance Available In PDF Format**  
If you prefer PDF to Word format, email [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org)

## CLASS WAR REPORTS



[Thanks to Phil G, who sent this in.]

## RECEIVED:

### **This Soldier Needs Help Now!**

[The article the soldier inquires about was reprinted in GI Special from the LA Times back in 2007, and he's been given direction on how to contact the Los Angeles Times reporter, as well as how to contact the Military Law Project and the GI Rights Hotline.

[BUT, if anybody knows any other source of help whatsoever, send an email in to [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org) and it will be forwarded to him.

[Especially legal help specializing in soldiers with a Factor V Leiden problem or medical discharge issues in general. T]

From: [XXXXX] SPC (SFG)  
To: [contact@militaryproject.org](mailto:contact@militaryproject.org)  
Sent: March 04, 2010  
Subject: Factor V Leiden Medical Discharge

I came across your article while trying to do some research for my condition.

I am in the United States Army and have served for 3 yrs.

This past summer I received medical treatment at an ER facility for a blood clot in my lung (Pulmonary Embolism). After having this my primary care physician ran blood test on me, only to find that I have Factor V Leiden.

**I am now being discharged from the military due to my condition.**

**I am in the early stages of this process still and I am trying to ensure that I am not just sent packing with nothing.**

In your article you state there was a helicopter pilot who was discharged with the same condition, appealed her case, and won a medical retirement.

I would like to know if you could help me, or point me in some sort of right direction.

I am seeking assistance with this issue.

I have been placed on Blood Thinners (Coumadin) for the rest of my life, as well as having to have regular blood tests to ensure my blood clot rate (INR) is in the therapeutic range for my condition.

**If the army separates me without any type of medical benefits I will honestly be screwed.**

**If there is any assistance you could provide, or someone else you can direct me to talk to for assistance in this matter it would be greatly appreciated.**

Thank you for your time regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

[XXXXX]  
SPC (SFG)



---

**RECEIVED:**

## **“Now We Are What We Fought”**

Johanna P [family members in armed services]  
To: Military Resistance  
Subject: This must be stopped  
Date: Mar 4, 2010

When I was in school during World War 11 the teacher said we hang traitors.

Well, we didn't that is why we have these problems today. Bush, Harrimen and Dulles they brought the enemy to us.

Now we are what we fought.

---

## **Vietnam GI: Reprints Available**



### **Vietnam: They Stopped An Imperial War**

**Not available from anybody else, anywhere**

**Edited by Vietnam Veteran Jeff Sharlet from 1968 until his death, this newspaper rocked the world, attracting attention even from Time Magazine, and extremely hostile attention from the chain of command. The pages and pages of letters in the paper from troops in Vietnam condemning the war are lost to history, but you can find them here.**

**The Military Project has copied complete sets of Vietnam GI. The originals were a bit rough, but every page is there. Over 100 pages, full 11x17 size.**

**Free on request to active duty members of the armed forces.**

Cost for others: \$15 if picked up in New York City. For mailing inside USA add \$5 for bubble bag and postage. For outside USA, include extra for mailing 2.5 pounds to wherever you are.

Checks, money orders payable to: The Military Project

Orders to:  
Military Resistance  
Box 126  
2576 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.  
10025-5657

All proceeds are used for projects giving aid and comfort to members of the armed forces opposed to today's Imperial wars.

---



**Military Resistance Looks Even Better Printed Out**

Military Resistance/GI Special are archived at website

<http://www.militaryproject.org> .

The following have chosen to post issues; there may be others:

<http://williambowles.info/wordpress/military-resistance-archives/> ;  
[news@uruknet.info](mailto:news@uruknet.info); [http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi\\_special/](http://www.traprockpeace.org/qi_special/)

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.**