

Military Resistance 8D2

Three German Soldiers Killed, 5 Seriously Wounded By Massive Resistance Attack: Following Tradition, Hysterical Reichskanzler “Shocked” That “Despicable” Afghans Fight Back When German Soldiers Invade Their Nation and Kill Them



Am 30. Januar 1933 wurde Adolf Hitler als Reichskanzler vereidigt. Photo: AP

Apr 2, 2010 DPA

Berlin/Kabul - Three German soldiers were killed and five seriously injured on Friday in a clash with Taliban rebels in northern Afghanistan, a military spokesman said.

The soldiers were on a mine clearing operation near the town of Kunduz when they came under attack from around 100 Taliban, military sources told the German Press Agency dpa.

The attack took place in Chardarah, the most restive of the six districts that make up Kunduz province, said a spokesman at the German operational headquarters in Potsdam near Berlin.

It was the highest number of casualties the postwar German armed forces, the Bundeswehr, have suffered in battle and brought to 39 the number of German soldiers killed in Afghanistan to 39.

The Germans were operating together with Afghan troops and other members of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) when the attack took place.

A German patrol came under sustained fire from the insurgents near the village of Eisakhel, said Abdul Wahid Omarkhel, the district chief in Chardarah.

The fighting lasted for several hours and many houses in the village were destroyed, locals said.

The three soldiers who died were shot by the rebels. The injured soldiers were in an armoured vehicle that apparently ran over a mine while taking evasive action, the military sources said.

The dead and injured were evacuated by NATO helicopters to the German base in Kunduz.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel expressed shock at what she called ‘a despicable and underhanded attack on our soldiers in Afghanistan.’ [Yes, those Afghans are really “underhanded.” They fight back when foreign soldiers travel thousands of miles to come invade, occupy and kill them.]

Earlier Friday, the head of Germany’s Lutheran Christians warned that the mission to Afghanistan risked losing its legitimation, and said Germany must avoid becoming a long-term occupying force in the region. **[Right. Christians are for short-term occupying forces, but not long-term occupying forces.]**

‘The conflict in Afghanistan has gone out of control,’ Nikolaus Schneider, the acting head of Germany’s Evangelical church, said in an interview released in advance of publication Saturday. **[“Out of control”? When the Afghan nationalists can organize an attack by 100 of their soldiers and successfully take out a batch of well-armed foreign occupiers in battle, it looks like Afghanistan is doing just fine. Well, tradition is tradition. When the Jews of the Warsaw ghetto rose up to fight a previous murderous occupation by a previous German Reichskanzler, no doubt they were also viewed as “despicable,” “underhanded,” and certainly “out of control.” T]**

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

IRAQ WAR REPORTS

25 Linked To U.S.-Allied Militia Killed In Sufia

April 03, 2010 The Australian

Attackers in army uniforms swooped on a village south of Baghdad, stormed three houses and killed 25 people from families linked to a U.S.-allied militia before dawn on Saturday, Iraqi officials say.

Among the dead were 20 men and five women, an interior ministry official said.

“Men wearing uniforms and driving vehicles similar to those used by the army stormed three houses in the village of Sufia, in the region of Hour Rajab, and killed 25 people, including five women,” said the interior ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity. A defence ministry official confirmed the details of the attack and the toll.

The interior ministry official said witnesses had told security forces the attackers entered the village just before midnight on Friday and had carried out the executions about two hours later.

They tied up their victims and shot them all either in the head or the chest, believed the worst attack against U.S.-allied fighters since November 16 when 13 members of a tribe opposed to insurgents were killed west of Baghdad.

Maj-Gen Atta said that 17 people had been arrested in connection with the killings, and that seven other civilians who had been discovered handcuffed in the village were freed.

He noted that the latter group were likely targets as well.

The families were part of the Sahwa (Awakening) movement, known as the “Sons of Iraq” by the US army, which joined American forces in 2006 and 2007 to fight against nationalist insurgents.

Control of the Sahwa passed to Iraqi authorities in October 2008 and since January 2009, their wages - said to have been cut from \$US300 (\$327) under US leadership to \$US100 (\$109) - have been paid, often late, by the government.

“Twenty-Three Suspected Insurgents Escaped Friday From A Detention Center In The City Of Mosul”

4.3.10 CNN

Twenty-three suspected insurgents escaped Friday from a detention center in the city of Mosul in northern Iraq by digging a hole in the wall and climbing through, officials said.

Guards discovered the escape from al-Ghazlani Detention Center when they entered the men's cell to distribute lunch at noon, the officials said.

The men, who were being held pending trial, had been in the cell at 6 a.m., when breakfast was served, the officials said.

A number of the center's security forces have been detained in connection with the investigation, officials said. **[Prison guards note well: the next time resistance prisoners escape, it would be smarter to go with them than stick around and get thrown in prison yourselves.]**

The escape had apparently been planned for some time: guards had seen a blanket covering the hole in the brick wall, which would have taken more than a day to breach, the officials said.

Mosul is located in Nineveh province, about 420 km (260 miles) north of Baghdad.

AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORTS

Marine From Buffalo Killed By Explosive In Afghanistan



Marine Sgt. Frank J.A. World joined the Marines in 2003 soon after graduating from Riverside Institute of Technology.

April 02, 2010 By Lou Michel, News Staff Reporter

The 2-month-old daughter of Marine Sgt. Frank J.A. World was born on Jan. 6 — barely two weeks after he deployed to Afghanistan.

When Lilly is old enough, her mother, Beth, plans to tell her that it was her father who came up with her nickname, "Lilly-Bear," while he was in Afghanistan, where he was killed Thursday by an improvised explosive device.

"I never got the chance to ask him how he came up with the name. I just said, 'Oh, that's so cute.' The last time we spoke on St. Patrick's Day, he told me that when he came home, he was going to give Lilly a big kiss and that he already had a nickname for her, Lilly-Bear," said Beth World, 24, who says her 25-year-old husband died doing what he loved — serving his country as a Marine.

World, a Riverside resident who was raised on the West Side, enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2003 after graduating from Riverside Institute of Technology.

From early boyhood, he seemed destined to become a Marine, according to his mother, Susan World-Missana.

"His father was a Marine, his uncle was a Marine, and he just had it in his head since he was little that when he grew up, he was going to go into the Marines," said World-Missana, who noted her son also was deployed to Iraq in 2004 and 2008.

While he had not been physically wounded in Iraq, his wife said, the war had left him mentally scarred.

"He didn't like to talk about it, but when he did, I basically listened to whatever he had to get off his chest. I know he had post-traumatic stress. He said he would have nightmares of being out there, what they had to do to survive," Beth World said.

Despite that, she and other family members said he displayed no hesitation or lack of enthusiasm when it came to fulfilling his military missions.

On his final mission Thursday morning, World was traveling in a light armored vehicle in Marjah, the site of a major offensive more than a month ago by Marines seeking to wrench the region from Taliban control.

"We were informed by a couple of Marine Corps officers during the dinner hour Thursday that during a combat mission in Marjah his light armored vehicle was hit with an IED," said Larry World, his older brother and a Buffalo firefighter, who added that it was not disclosed whether other Marines were harmed in the attack.

A member of LAR Alpha Company, 2nd Marine Division, the sergeant served as an infantryman on all three of his deployments and was in the sixth year of an eight-year commitment to the Corps.

When he returned home from his first eight-month tour in Iraq, he met his wife to be, the former Beth Zielinski of South Buffalo, at a party and, she said, they immediately knew they were meant for each other.

By 2006, they married and had their first child, Jacob, 3. They lived in base housing at Camp Lejeune, N.C., but decided that she and Jacob should return home to Buffalo to be close to family with the impending birth of their second child while he was in Afghanistan.

And even though he was thousands of miles away from the daughter he would never meet, Beth World said she made it her business to introduce their baby girl to her father every single day.

One of the most recent photographs of her and her husband hangs in the living room of her South Buffalo apartment.

"It's a big picture of Frank and me from when I was eight months pregnant and we went to the Marine Corps ball. He was wearing his dress blues and I had a beautiful blue dress on. Every day I walk up to it with Lilly and she stares at it.

"It's really strange, but I think she knows that's her daddy. There are other pictures in the house, but that's the only one she stares at," Beth World said.

She says she can feel her husband's spirit protecting her and the children.

Her brother-in-law says he, too, is certain of that. "My brother was solid in his faith and firm in his beliefs, so there is no doubt that he is our angel up above watching down on us," Larry World said.

For now, though, Beth World is left with the memory of her final phone call with her husband on March 17.

"We talked about how he couldn't wait to come home and meet his daughter," she said.

Today, she and other family members will fly to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware to escort Sgt. World's remains back to Buffalo.

But Beth World says she knows that she will again see her beloved husband, beyond mortal bounds. And that the reunion will be a happy one. And when it comes, she says she plans to ask him how he came up with the nickname "Lilly- Bear."

Foreign Soldiers Assist The Afghan Resistance: They Kill A Carload Of Local Collaborators

Apr 3 AFP

German soldiers called in as reinforcements following a Taliban ambush mistakenly killed five Afghan government soldiers, officials said Saturday.

A German armoured personnel carrier was en route late Friday to reinforce troops who had been engaged in a fierce battle with Taliban fighters since the morning at Chahar Dara near the city of Kunduz.

They opened fire at a civilian car which approached their patrol, killing five Afghan soldiers who were inside, German military officials said.

Afghan defence ministry spokesman, General Mohammad Zahir Azimi confirmed the incident but said six soldiers lost their lives. The ministry “condemns” the “incident,” it said in statement.

NEW GENERAL ORDER NO. 1: PACK UP GO HOME



20 March 2010: Marjah, Afghanistan: US Marines sleeping overnight in a farmyard during a 24-hour operation. Photograph: Mauricio Lima/AFP [Thanks to Sandy Kelson, Military Resistance, who sent this in.]

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

TROOP NEWS

HOW MANY MORE FOR OBAMA'S WARS?



Service for Marine Sgt. David J. Smith at Arlington National Cemetery Feb. 9, 2010. Sgt. Smith was critically wounded Jan. 23 by an attack in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He died of his injuries three days later. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

**Army Command Refuses To
Replace Deadly “Jesus Rifles”
A Nest Of Devil-Worshipping
“Christian” Traitors Tell Protesting
Soldiers In Afghanistan To “Shut
The Fuck Up”**

**“It’s Not Just Embarrassing To Have
These ‘Jesus Rifles’ With Us But It’s
Also A Serious Security Threat To All
Of Us”**

“We Want The Bible Stuff Off Of Our Gunsights. We Feel It Makes Us Targets”

“Many, many native Afghan civilians and especially the Afghan military members here are well aware of the ‘Jesus rifles’ controversy which was covered all over the place by the news services back in the middle of January of this year.

“It makes them very, very mad at America and our military.

March 30, 2010 By Chris Rodda, HuffingtonPost.com, Inc. [Excerpts]

Everybody remember those Jesus Rifles?

The rifles being used by our troops in Iraq in Afghanistan that have Bible verse inscriptions on their sights?

The sights whose manufacturer, Trijicon, was going to be sending the military modification kits for to remove these inscriptions?

Well, this isn't going exactly as expected.

As ABCNews.com reports, the U.S. military, in its infinite wisdom, has decided to remove the inscriptions from the sights that are in storage first, and then wait to remove them from the sights on the weapons currently in use in Iraq and Afghanistan, after the deployed units that are using them return home, a plan that completely ignores the biggest reason that the inscriptions urgently needed to be removed.

The whole Jesus rifles issue began because the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) was receiving emails and phone calls from soldiers, either already in Iraq and Afghanistan or soon to be deployed, who were worried that having Bible verse inscriptions on their weapons was a danger to the troops.

While religious inscriptions on our military's weapons is certainly a constitutional issue regardless of whether those weapons are here in the U.S. or with the troops who are deployed, the primary concern with the Jesus rifles was that they are all over Iraq and Afghanistan, providing fodder for propaganda that we are crusaders fighting a holy war.

Now, jumping forward two months to the present, MRFF is still receiving emails and phone calls about the Jesus rifles, now from deployed soldiers asking when the hell they're going to get the promised modification kits.

Rather than try to describe these recent emails, I'm just going to post one of them in its entirety, as I did in my previous post.

“I am a United States soldier currently deployed to Afghanistan. I am a practicing Baptist and my wife is too. My combat unit is currently engaged in major combat operations in the southern provinces of Afghanistan.

“I am of junior enlisted rank and my fellow soldiers (most of them to my knowledge being Christians, too) and I are at the bottom of the chain of command.

“Many, many native Afghan civilians and especially the Afghan military members here are well aware of the ‘Jesus rifles’ controversy which was covered all over the place by the news services back in the middle of January of this year.

“It makes them very, very mad at America and our military.

“They constantly ask us if we are still using these “Jesus rifles”.

“They ask us to see for themselves what is written on our gunsights.

“Wherever we go these same questions come up almost immediately.

“Not all the native Afghans ask them but enough of them do that my fellow soldiers in my company and even my battalion have asked our military chain of command about what we’re supposed to say to them when asked.

“This has been a mess.

“We’ve been told to ‘shut the fuck up’ and to ‘tell them that it’s none of their damn business ‘cause we’re there to save them from Islam (yes, ISLAM!)’. We’ve even been told to explain Christianity to them and use it as ‘an opening to enlighten them.’

“Yes, those exact words! We all heard that there were supposed to be ‘100 kits’ which the company that put the bible references on our gunsights were going to be sending to the military right away to ‘fix’ the ‘problem’.

“When my fellow soldiers and I have asked our chain of command about this fact, we’ve been told that ‘that was just to shut up the traitors in the media and the bleeding heart groups’.

“Our chain of command really hates the Military Religious Freedom Foundation and blames it for all of this mess in the first place. If any of them knew that any of us were talking to the Military Religious Foundation about this problem here, it would be over for us and our families immediately.

“It’s not just embarrassing to have these ‘Jesus rifles’ with us but it’s also a serious security threat to all of us.

“When we walk into an Afghan village trying to determine whether it’s ‘friend or foe’ regarding the Taliban etc. and they ask us right off the bat if we are using the ‘Jesus rifles’ it is a VERY BAD way to start out considering our combat mission.

“We want the bible stuff off of our gunsights. We feel it makes us targets. We want them off now!

“When are we EVER going to see one of those ‘100 fix kits’ which were supposed to be sent out?

None of us here feel we can even raise the subject again with our chain of command because we risk being identified as a ‘problem child’ and when you’re fighting a war like this one here that can get you in alot of trouble; it can get you killed.”

In addition to emails like the one above, MRFF has also been receiving emails from soldiers telling us that their worried parents have been asking them if their rifle sights have been fixed yet.

One deployed soldier’s father, a Baptist minister, recently called MRFF founder and president Mikey Weinstein, expressing his anger that his son is being placed in harm’s way by something that could be fixed in less than 30 seconds, and telling Weinstein that he had taken it upon himself to “send the 101st fix kit over,” going to a Home Depot and buying thin black duct tape to send to his son’s battalion to cover up the Bible verse inscriptions on their weapons.

Judging by what Col. Doug Tamilio, who runs Project Manager Soldier Weapons, recently told the Army Times, the military apparently just doesn’t get that it’s the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan who need these Bible verse inscriptions removed from their weapons immediately, and that the ones in storage or being used for training here in the U.S. can wait.

According to Tamilio: “It’s going to take us about a year to get the whole Army done. We’ve got soldiers engaged in combat; I don’t want to disrupt what the soldiers are doing over there.”

I guess in the meantime our troops in the war zone will just have to rely upon makeshift solutions and inventive parents sending them duct tape to fix the Jesus rifles that are right now ‘disrupting’ what they’re doing over there.

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

“Sgt. Layne Was Not The First Veteran To Die After Being Prescribed Medical Cocktails Including Seroquel For PTSD”

“The Untold Number Who Will Have Survived The Wars Only To Die At The Hands Of Deadly Pharmaceutical Cocktails Is A Scandal”

“Treating PTSD Does Not Have To Be Drugging Up Our Soldiers And Marines In Order To Keep Boots On The Ground”

“Our Soldiers And Marines Are Not Dispensable To Save A Dollar”

[Thanks to Mark Shapiro, Military Resistance, who sent this in.]

The way Vande Burgt describes it, Seroquel “drugs vets up” to such a degree that they “don’t dream at all.”

“It wipes out the hypervigilance factor,” he told AlterNet via e-mail. “But as soon as the meds are decreased, the hypervigilance and anger and trust issues come raging back, worse than before.”

March 6, 2010 By Martha Rosenberg, AlterNet [Excerpts]

Sgt. Eric Layne’s death was not pretty.

A few months after starting a drug regimen combining the antidepressant Paxil, the mood stabilizer Klonopin and a controversial anti-psychotic drug manufactured by

pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca, Seroquel, the Iraq war veteran was “suffering from incontinence, severe depression (and) continuous headaches,” according to his widow, Janette Layne.

Soon he had tremors. “ ... (H)is breathing was labored (and) he had developed sleep apnea,” Layne said.

Janette Layne, who served in the National Guard during Operation Iraqi Freedom along with her husband, told the story of his decline last year, at official FDA hearings on new approvals for Seroquel.

On the last day of his life, she testified, Eric stayed in the bathroom nearly all night battling acute urinary retention (an inability to urinate). He died while his family slept.

Sgt. Layne had just returned from a seven-week inpatient program at the VA Medical Center in Cincinnati where he was being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

A video shot during that time, played by his wife at the FDA hearings, shows a dangerously sedated figure barely able to talk.

Sgt. Layne was not the first veteran to die after being prescribed medical cocktails including Seroquel for PTSD.

In the last two years, Pfc. Derek Johnson, 22, of Hurricane, West Virginia; Cpl. Andrew White, 23, of Cross Lanes, West Virginia; Cpl. Chad Oligschlaeger, 21, of Roundrock, Texas; Cpl. Nicholas Endicott, 24, of Pecks Mill, West Virginia; and Spc. Ken Jacobs, 21, of Walworth, New York have all died suddenly while taking Seroquel cocktails.

Death certificates and other records collected by veteran family members show that more than 100 similar deaths have occurred among Iraq and Afghanistan combat vets and other military personnel, many of whom took PTSD cocktails that included Seroquel and other antipsychotics, antidepressants, mood stabilizers, sleep inducers and pain and seizure medications.

Since the 2008 publication of “The Battle Within,” the Denver Post’s expose of a “pharmaco-battlefield” in Iraq, in which troops were found to be routinely propped up on antidepressants, the Department of Defense has sought to curb the deployment of troops with mental health problems to combat zones.

The DOD has also stepped up monitoring of soldiers who have been medicated, according to the Hartford Courant, and with good reason: 34 percent of the 935 active-duty soldiers who made suicide attempts in 2007 were on psychoactive drugs.

But the U.S. Army’s Warrior Care and Transition Office reports that soldiers are dying after coming home, many in Warrior Transition Units that were established in 2007 to prepare wounded soldiers for a return to duty or civilian life.

According to the Army Times, between June 2007 and October 2008, 68 such veteran deaths were recorded -- nine were ruled suicides, six are pending investigation and six were from "combined lethal drug toxicity." Thirty-five were termed "natural causes."

The mysterious deaths -- and an alarming track record -- have cast renewed scrutiny on Seroquel. Although it has not been approved for treatment of PTSD, Pentagon purchases of Seroquel nearly doubled between 2003 and 2007. Elspeth Ritchie, medical director of the Army's Strategic Communications Office told the Denver Post the drug is "increasingly utilized as an adjunct for PTSD."

The Seroquel Scandals

It would be hard to find a drug with a wider fraud footprint than Seroquel -- at least one that's still on the market.

One of its first backers, Richard Borison, former chief of psychiatry at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center, lost his medical license, was fined \$4.26 million and went to prison for a swindle involving Seroquel's original clinical studies.

AstraZeneca's U.S. medical director for Seroquel, Dr. Wayne MacFadden, had sexual affairs with two different women doing research on Seroquel, a study investigator at London's Institute of Psychiatry and a Seroquel ghostwriter at the marketing firm, Parexel.

According to court documents, MacFadden even joked about the conflicts of interest with one paramour.

Last year, the Chicago Tribune and ProPublica reported that Chicago psychiatrist Michael Reinstein, who wrote 41,000 prescriptions for Seroquel, received \$500,000 from AstraZeneca.

Meanwhile, a report in the Minneapolis Star Tribune discredited influential studies by AstraZeneca-funded Charles Schulz, MD, chief of psychiatry at the University of Minnesota.

Seroquel was even promoted by the disgraced former chief of psychiatry at Emory University School of Medicine, Charles Nemeroff, who was accused by congressional investigators of failing to report \$1 million in pharmacological income -- in AstraZeneca-funded continuing medical education courses.

And until a Philadelphia Inquirer expose last year, Florida child psychiatrist Jorge Armenteros, a paid AstraZeneca speaker, was chairman of the FDA Psychopharmacologic Drugs Advisory Committee responsible for recommending Seroquel approvals.

In a trial that began in New Jersey last month, AstraZeneca is defending itself in one of 26,000 lawsuits, denying that Seroquel caused diabetes in Vietnam veteran Ted Baker, who was prescribed Seroquel for PTSD.

Last year, London-based AstraZeneca agreed to pay \$520 million last year to settle suits pertaining to clinical trials and illegal Seroquel marketing.

Yet, instead of reconsidering a drug linked to an alarming number of deaths and marred by at least eight corruption scandals in 13 years -- Seroquel was even prescribed to a 4-year-old Massachusetts girl, Rebecca Riley, before her death -- the FDA continues to issue approvals for new uses for Seroquel.

Seroquel was first approved to treat schizophrenia in 1997. The FDA subsequently expanded its use, approving it for “acute manic episodes associated with Bipolar I Disorder” in 2004, “major depressive episodes associated with Bipolar Disorder” in 2006 and “maintenance treatment for Bipolar I Disorder” in 2009.

Last April, the FDA opened the door to prescribing Seroquel to people who have not even been diagnosed with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder, approving Seroquel as “an additional therapy in patients suffering from depression who do not respond adequately to their current medications.”

Not that Seroquel needed a boost; its \$4.9 billion in sales in 2009 signals usage far beyond the 1 percent of the population with schizophrenia and the 2.5 percent with bipolar disorder. North Carolina’s Medicaid spends \$29.4 million per year on Seroquel -- more than any other drug, according to the Charlotte News and Observer.

Most recently, in December, Seroquel was quietly approved for children between the ages of 10 and 17 who are diagnosed with bipolar mania and children between 13 and 17 with schizophrenia. It was a stealth end-of-the-year decision, announced not by the FDA itself but by AstraZeneca. (The change was reflected in an entry on Seroquel’s FDA approval page that notes “Patient Population Altered.”)

‘When Six People Die From Peanut Butter We Shut The Factories Down’

With veteran deaths in the news, family members hope the unsolved mysteries surrounding Seroquel-linked deaths of soldiers could finally force AstraZeneca to take responsibility for its product.

Stan and Shirley White lost two sons to war. Robert White, a staff sergeant, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005, when his Humvee was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade.

But the death of Robert’s younger brother Andrew, who survived Iraq only to succumb to a different battle, is in some ways “harder to accept” says his father.

Like Eric Layne, Andrew was taking Seroquel, Klonopin, Paxil and prescription painkillers for PTSD after returning home from his Iraq tour.

Like Layne, he deteriorated physically and mentally on the prescribed cocktail until experiencing a sudden, inexplicable death.

“When six people die from peanut butter we shut the factories down, but at least 87 military men have died in the past six years on Seroquel and similar drugs and no alarm sounds,” Stan White told AlterNet.

SSGT (Ret) Tom Vande Burgt’s Army National Guard company was stationed outside Baghdad at the same time that Eric and Janette Layne were serving, in 2004 and 2005, but his story has a happier ending.

Like White and Layne, he was prescribed a PTSD cocktail that included Seroquel, along with Klonopin and the antidepressant Celexa, but as tremors, sleep apnea and enuresis (bedwetting) developed, his wife, Diane, questioned the high dosage, off-label use of a bipolar drug like Seroquel.

After her husband was taken off his meds abruptly and it was discovered there were no records of the drugs being sent to him (or the doses) by a VA primary care doctor -- mistakes that “could have cost him his life,” according to Diane -- the Vande Burgts filed a complaint with the VA Office of the Inspector General. It, however, found no wrongdoing, concluding the treatment was within the VA’s “standard of care.”

Under the care of a private psychiatrist, Vande Burgt’s cocktail only grew, but eventually he went off the drugs with the help of his doctor, and his sleep apnea, urinary problems, tremors, weight gain, depression, mood swings, lethargy and paranoia subsided.

The way Vande Burgt describes it, Seroquel “drugs vets up” to such a degree that they “don’t dream at all.”

“It wipes out the hypervigilance factor,” he told AlterNet via e-mail. “But as soon as the meds are decreased, the hypervigilance and anger and trust issues come raging back, worse than before.”

Now the Vande Burgts, who live in Charleston, West Virginia, coordinate a PTSD support group and a Web site that emphasize nondrug solutions and the need for soldiers and veterans to have an advocate present during care for PTSD and traumatic brain injury to ensure clear communication between doctors and patient.

Tom also uses the services of Give an Hour, a program in which local therapists donate one hour of therapy a week to veterans, soldiers and families dealing with PTSD.

“Good old-fashioned talk therapy and support groups are tried and true ... all the others are just quick fixes that add to the problem, not addressing the root of the problem.”

AstraZeneca: Too Big To Regulate?

Seroquel’s ability to cause cardiac arrest and sudden death is well-known.

A search of the U.S. National Library of Medicine database yields 20 articles linking “Seroquel” and “sudden death,” 24 linking “Seroquel” and “QT prolongation” (a heart

disturbance that can led to death), 55 linking “Seroquel” and “toxicity,” as well as such terms as “cardiac arrest” and “death.”

A 2005 article in the Journal of Forensic Sciences says Seroquel was detected in 13 postmortem cases and the cause of death in three, observing that “little information exists regarding therapeutic, toxic, and lethal concentrations.”

A 2003 article in CNS Drugs reports, “some patients have died while taking therapeutic doses,” of atypical antipsychotics like Seroquel and that “toxicity may be increased by coingestion of other agents.”

“The second-generation antipsychotics were termed ‘atypical’ based on misconceptions of enhanced safety and efficacy,” Dr. Grace Jackson, a former Navy and Veterans Administration psychiatrist and author of Drug-Induced Dementia and Rethinking Psychiatric Drugs, told AlterNet in an interview. (“Atypical” antipsychotics supposedly function differently from “typical” antipsychotics and are thought to cause fewer side effects.)

“In 2002 and 2003, according to a VA study published in 2007, 20 to 30 percent of demented veterans (veterans with brain conditions including organic and psychiatric psychosis) died within the first 12 months of beginning treatment with an antipsychotic,” said Jackson.

“When you combine antipsychotics with antidepressants, benzodiazepines and antiepileptics -- especially in Iraq/Afghanistan veterans who have likely sustained traumatic brain injuries -- you have potential lethality from sleep apnea, endocrine anomalies and opioid intoxication.”

Seroquel’s record of causing sudden cardiac death was on the docket at last year’s FDA hearings, which Stan and Shirley White and Janette Layne attended.

According to Dr. Wayne Ray, who testified before the FDA’s Psychopharmacologic Drugs Advisory Committee, one study involving 93,300 users of antipsychotic drugs -- half of whom were on atypical antipsychotics -- showed that such users were at no less than double the risk of a “sudden, fatal, pulseless condition, or collapse ... consistent with a ventricular tachyarrhythmia occurring in the absence of a known, non-cardiac cause.”

Ray, professor of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, published the findings in an article titled “Atypical antipsychotic drugs and the risk of sudden cardiac death,” in the New England Journal of Medicine last year.

Unwilling to let Seroquel’s approval prospects sink just because it’s dangerous, the FDA’s Marc Stone, a medical reviewer, donned his AstraZeneca hat at the hearing.

In a presentation rebutting Ray’s testimony, he asked how the death certificates in these cases were accurate when “paramedics are more likely to identify some deaths as sudden cardiac deaths?”

“Smoking as an important risk factor for sudden cardiac death is unlikely to appear in the Medicaid claims data used in this study,” Stone continued, and, “How do we know

smoking wasn't a factor in the deaths -- or that antipsychotic users aren't less likely to 'communicate symptoms of cardiac disease to medical personnel?'"

He also pointed out that "Mental illness severe enough to require antipsychotic drugs ... may also increase the chances of someone being homeless or living alone with little social contact," apparently forgetting that the purpose of the FDA hearings was to approve Seroquel for non-mentally ill people with anxiety and depression.

Elsewhere, Seroquel For PTSD Gets Good Reviews.

"These data are encouraging for adjunctive treatment with a second-generation [atypical] antipsychotic in patients who have partially responded to an SSRI or an SNRI [antidepressants]," says the American Psychiatric Association's March 2009 Practice Guideline for the Treatment of Patients with Acute Stress Disorder and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. Matthew J. Friedman, one of its four authors, is executive director of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs National Center for PTSD -- **and an AstraZeneca consultant.**

"Quetiapine improves sleep disturbances in combat veterans with PTSD," wrote Mark Hamner in a 2005 Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology article. Hamner is medical director of the PTSD clinical team at the Ralph H. Johnson Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Charleston, SC -- **and an AstraZeneca consultant.**

"Atypical antipsychotics also have an emerging place in PTSD pharmacology, particularly for symptoms of paranoia, intense hypervigilance, arousal, extreme agitation, dissociation, psychotic-type flashbacks, and brief psychotic reactions," writes Cynthia M. A. Geppert in a 2009 Psychiatric Times article. She is chief of consultation psychiatry and ethics at the New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System -- **and recipient of three AstraZeneca grants.**

Meanwhile, critics and activists ask: What protections are afforded to veterans enrolled in Seroquel studies -- some combining Seroquel with other drugs -- that AstraZeneca-funded doctors conduct at VA medical centers?

Many say that Big Pharma, embedded in academic institutions, medical schools, military medicine, government entitlement programs and the FDA itself is too big to regulate, like Wall Street firms.

But others say the incarceration of VA Chief of Psychiatry Richard Borison in 1998 is proof the system works. (Of course, he will be out soon.)

As veterans continue to come home from Iraq, even as more are deployed to Afghanistan, PTSD will continue to threaten their mental health.

The untold number who will have survived the wars only to die at the hands of deadly pharmaceutical cocktails is a scandal the FDA -- and the Pentagon -- cannot afford to ignore.

“Treating PTSD does not have to be drugging up our soldiers and Marines in order to keep boots on the ground,” says Diane Vande Burgt.

“Our soldiers and Marines are not dispensable to save a dollar.”

**“Only A Fraction Of Wounded Veterans Who Could Get Better Benefits Have Applied”
“I Personally Think They Are Not Trying To Find People Because The More They Find, The Retirements Will Add Up,”
Parker Said**

4.2.10 By KEVIN MAURER (AP) [Excerpts]

WILMINGTON, N.C. — Only a fraction of wounded veterans who could get better benefits have applied in the two years since Congress, acting on concerns the military was cutting costs by downplaying injuries, ordered the Pentagon to review disputed claims.

As of mid-March, only 921 vets have applied out of the 77,000 the Pentagon estimates are eligible, according to numbers provided to The Associated Press by the Physical Disability Board of Review. The panel was created in 2008 but started taking cases in January 2009.

More than 230 cases have been decided, about 60 percent in favor of improving the veteran’s benefits, while an additional 119 case were dismissed as ineligible.

At issue are disability ratings based on an injury’s severity and long-term impact. Veterans rated below 30 percent disabled with less than 20 years of service receive a one-time severance payment instead of a monthly retirement check. Also, their health care switches from the military to the strained VA system, and their families lose military health insurance.

A rating above 30 percent means monthly income and military health care for the family.

A disabled service member’s severance pay and monthly retirement is based on active-duty pay, years of service and if the service member’s injuries are combat-related.

Congress created the board after investigations found inconsistencies in how the military assigns ratings for the level of disability that soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have

before they are discharged. Veterans advocates protested that the military was manipulating disability ratings to save money.

Orin Higgins, 30, injured his back while he was stationed in Korea. The Army discharged him on medical grounds in May 2006 with no benefits, even though the injury hampers everyday chores.

"Tying my shoes is difficult," said Higgins, from Mountain Grove, Mo. "I can't get a job because all I know is construction and roofing and you can't do that with a bad back."

Higgins appealed his Army rating to the Physical Disability Board of Review in May 2009 and was approved for a higher rating by the board in February.

"I think they've righted a wrong," he said.

The panel is managed by the Air Force and charged with reviewing appeals from former members of the armed forces who received disability ratings of less than 30 percent from Sept. 11, 2001 to Dec. 31, 2009. Before Congress created the streamlined process, veterans could appeal but were subjected to a lengthy review by a military panel that rarely changed the ratings.

Under the new system, the board makes a recommendation in an average of about eight months. The recommendation is sent to the service secretaries, who more than 90 percent of the time have accepted the board's review, according to numbers provided by the board.

"I think each of these cases is given substantial rigor. We take exhaustive measures to make sure we're doing the right thing," LoGrande said. "That is why when I see the Army, which has the preponderance of applicants, adopting almost 100 percent of our recommendations."

Veterans advocates say more outreach is needed.

"Less than 1,000 have applied, to me they really need to do a better effort to get the word out," said Mike Hayden, deputy director of government relations for the Military Officers Association of America. "The success rate tells me there was a definite problem and the Physical Disability Board of Review is out there to correct it."

Hayden said military and veterans' service groups were provided with information about the board for their newsletters when the board first started taking cases. He has also seen some information released through a Defense Department news release.

"In order to reach out to make sure everyone is contacted, we think it needs to be a personal letter," Hayden said.

The Military Officers Association of America and other veterans groups drafted a joint letter urging the Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs to send letters to all veterans eligible for a review.

Retired Army Lt. Col. Mike Parker, an advocate for wounded soldiers, said it would be easy for the board to get the addresses of eligible veterans because most get Department of Veterans Affairs benefits.

“I personally think they are not trying to find people because the more they find, the retirements will add up,” Parker said.

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**

Missing In America



From: Mike Hastie
To: Military Resistance
Sent: March 26, 2010
Subject: Missing In America

Missing In America

A Vietnam vet holds a banner not only to bring attention to homeless veterans in America, but describe his feelings about the low turnout at the 7th anniversary of America's terrorist invasion of Iraq on March 20, 2003.

This is where the American people have descended to in their world of oblivious memory.

It's like running over someone, and then leaving the scene of the crime.

How many Iraqi children have died since the U.S. initially invaded Iraq back in 1991, to include sanctions by the U.S. and Great Britain?

UNICEF puts the figure at

500,000 dead children.
Which means one million parents.
Which means two million grandparents.
At least three million people who are
intimately connected to these deaths.
That's a lot of people to leave at the scene
of a crime.
That is what America has become.
It's beyond mind boggling.
It's like trying to understand the
death toll at Bergen-Belsen.
When you try to emotionally comprehend
the impact of all that evil,
the human mind just shuts down.
After awhile it just becomes statistics.
500,000 dead children is just too much
to believe could happen, especially if this
happened while you were living in this time frame.
You go to any length to protect your belief system.
The idea of paying taxes to a government that would
commit these kinds of war crimes is too much to absorb
in one lifetime.
Maybe that's why so few people protest their government
during times of national immorality.
It becomes a matter of survival to deny that you have
become a collaborator.
You do this one day at a time,
otherwise you would go mad.

Mike Hastie
U.S. Army Medic
Vietnam 1970-71
March 24, 2010

"I cling desperately to every chance, however slight,
to gather the children together to foster in them
and in me even the slightest mental sharpness,
as well as a basic feeling of human dignity. I will
no longer be able to separate my thoughts from
my understanding of war's events; the two will be
intimately linked forever in my mind."

Hanna Levy-Hass
Diary of Bergen-Belsen 1944-1945

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)

“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

Lame Bullshit Department

THURSDAY 25 MARCH 2
Have a Nice World War, Folks
Thursday 25 March 2010
by: John Pilger, t r u t h o u t | Op-Ed

[Excerpt]

Here is news of the Third World War.

The United States has invaded Africa. US troops have entered Somalia, extending their war front from Afghanistan and Pakistan to Yemen and, now, the Horn of Africa.

Comment: T

One of the few sources of information directly from Somalia may be found at:

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

Go to the right side, where daily reports are posted from time to time from Somalia under that heading, although not every day.

They range from pro-U.S. government major media pieces to, most unusual, reports filed by Somalian reporters themselves, which portray the day to day fighting, especially in Mogadishu.

Their command of the English is sometimes weak, but the reports give a clear picture. “Mareeg” is a local news service: an example may be found at:

<http://www.mareeg.com/fidsan.php?sid=15568&tirsan=3>

If, as Pilger says, U.S. troops were present now, somebody there would have noticed.

If he means that there have been U.S. troops present at earlier points in the history of Somalia, that is true, but his formulation dishonest and misleading. If he means that there are overflights now, then his formulation about “troops” is dishonest and misleading.

In fact, the U.S. backed government has, in the last month, issued repeated statements vehemently rejecting the introduction of U.S. troops, which may be found archived at the above reference website.

The U.S. backed government, although isolated, weak and incompetent, is not completely brain-dead yet, and knows what little popular support is left for them would evaporate immediately were they to accept U.S. troops.

This is not to say that at some future point U.S. forces will not be introduced.

It is to say they are not present now, as Pilger insinuates.

OCCUPATION PALESTINE

Benevolent Occupier Allows Clothes To Reach Victims: “Tampons, Books And Children’s Crayons, Both Of Which Pose A Far Deadlier Risk To Israel Than Gaza’s Homemade Rockets, Are Still Considered Contraband”

[Thanks to Linda O, who sent this in.]

March 31st, 2010 By Mohammad, Kabobfest.com

As a gesture of its peaceful intentions, Israel yesterday announced to great fanfare that it would allow shoes and clothes into the besieged Gaza Strip for the first time in three years.

Israeli spokesmen said the import of the dangerous materials was designed to ensure Gazans don't fall too behind in the latest fashion trends, and also to ostensibly clothe naked Palestinian males who might pose a serious danger to innocent Jewish girls.

Clothes, which are notorious for their anti-Semitism, have long been a favorite weapon of Palestinian terrorist hell-bent on the destruction of Israel.

As Anti-Defamation League president Abraham Foxman put it, “the proliferation of clothes amongst Palestinian refugees reminds us all that times have not really changed much since 1939.”

But the US State Department nevertheless welcomed the news, with spokesman PJ Crowley applauding Israel's latest humanitarian move. "Israel has always shown that it is willing to make concessions for peace," he said.

"The Israeli government is aware that most of the homes it destroyed in Gaza have not been rebuilt, so the clothes will give their residents a source of warmth that broken walls and shattered windows just cannot do. The US will proudly reimburse Israel for the costs of these clothes."

However, Palestinians scoffed at the idea that Israel pays for anything that enters Gaza, with local merchants demanding that the Zionist entity release the hundreds of tons of goods they have paid for and which have been held in Israeli ports for years.

The ten trucks that will carry the new garments to be shared amongst Gaza's 1.6 million people will also contain a far more nefarious weapon: shoes.

It is well known that throwing shoes is a sign of disrespect exclusive to Arab culture.

Once again Israel's pangs for peace have driven it to undertake such a bold sacrifice, risking the humiliation of its occupying troops under a shower of footwear.

The hawks in Israel's government have insisted that other, far more dangerous materials remain banned from entering Gaza.

As such, tampons, books and children's crayons, both of which pose a far deadlier risk to Israel than Gaza's homemade rockets, are still considered contraband.

[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."]

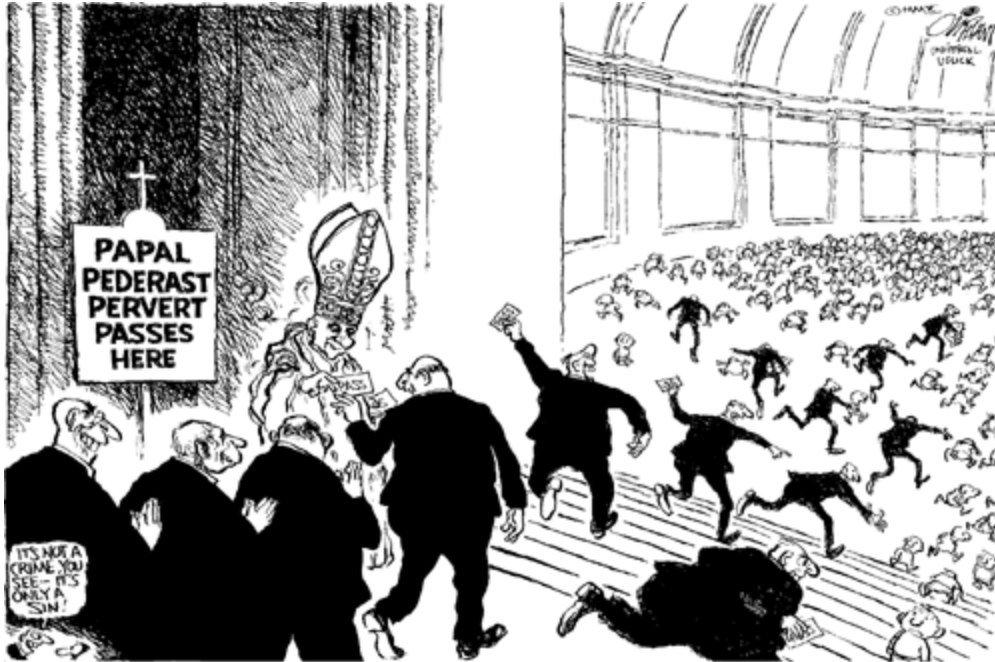
NEED SOME TRUTH? CHECK OUT TRAVELING SOLDIER

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.

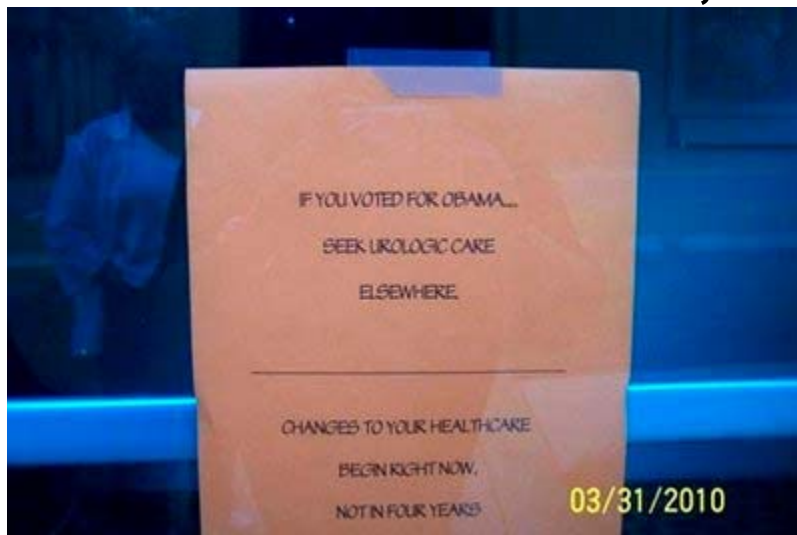
Our goal is for Traveling Soldier to become the thread that ties working-class people inside the armed services together. We want this newsletter to be a weapon to help you organize resistance within the armed forces.

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/)

DANGER: POLITICIANS AT WORK



**Worthless Piece Of Shit & Stupid Lying
Worthless Piece Of Shit Awards For 2010
So Far Go To Jack Cassell, M.D.**



(AP Photo/Orlando Sentinel, Deirdre Lewis)

In this March 31, 2010 photo. this sign is seen posted on the office door of Dr. Jack Cassell, a Mount Dora, Fla. urologist. The notice on Dr. Jack Cassell's Mount Dora practice says, 'If you voted for Obama, seek urologic care elsewhere.' Changes to your healthcare begin right now, not in four years.

Cassell told the Orlando Sentinel on Thursday he wasn't questioning patients or refusing care, because that would be unethical. **[People in search of competent medical care would be well advised to avoid an individual too stupid even to lie competently. T]**

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



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

**THE TROOPS HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THE
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; http://www.traprockpeace.org/gi_special/

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