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UNENDING BLOWBACK

As Washington preps for war on Venezuela, Americans hit with tragedy left over from needless intervention in Afghanistan

By the Staff of AFP

As Washington warmongers try to steer the country into another regime-change war—this time on Venezuela—the country is reeling after blowback from the decades-long U.S. occupation of Afghanistan that is directly tied to the shooting of two National Guard soldiers in the nation's capital a day before Thanksgiving.

On Nov. 26, 29-year-old Afghan immigrant Rahmanullah Lakanwal walked casually up to National Guard soldiers, stationed in the bustling business district of downtown Washington, D.C., before drawing a pistol and trying to assassinate two of them—Sarah Beckstrom, 20, and Andrew Wolfe, 24.

As AFP goes to press a week after the incident on Dec. 4, Wolfe clings to life but Beckstrom died from her injuries on the evening of Nov. 26.

President Donald Trump announced Beckstrom's death on Thanksgiving Day, saying in a statement, "Sarah Beckstrom of West Virginia, one of the guardsmen ... a highly respected, young, magnificent person ... She's just passed away. She's no longer with us."



RAHMANULLAH LAKANWAL
Turned into CIA killing machine.

The following Sunday, Department of Homeland Security Director Kristi Noem took to the weekly talk shows to make the claim that, somehow, Lakanwal, after arriving in the United States in 2021, had become radicalized, which led him to murder two young American soldiers in cold blood.

"We believe it was through connections in his home community and state," she told CBS News that day.

New details have come out, however, that throw cold water on Noem's claim, indicating that the killings were the result of blowback the United States is still facing from a regime change war Washington initiated on Oct. 7, 2001 when the U.S. military invaded and occupied Afghanistan a

month after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

It turns out that Lakanwal had been brought to the United States along with thousands of other Afghans out of concern he would face retribution from the Taliban, who currently rule the mountainous country following the U.S. military's hasty departure under President Joe Biden.

We now know that Lakanwal, when he was still in Afghanistan, had worked under the CIA and U.S. Special Forces in one of the agency's notorious Afghan "death squads."

After coming to the United States in 2021, it was well-known in the community where he lived in Bellingham, Wash. with his wife and five children that he had been suffering "mental issues" that a number of U.S. reporters had linked to his service in the so-called "Zero Unit," the Afghan National Security Directorate's paramilitary forces the CIA created during the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan.

Lakanwal worked in a unit that was designated "03," or the Kandahar Strike Force, with a security badge that revealed an affiliation with Firebase Gecko, a CIA and U.S. Special Forces outpost in that area.

Known for their "leave no one alive" nighttime raids on suspected members of the Taliban, Zero Units have been accused of human rights abuses from summary executions to the killing of civilians, including children in religious schools.

A retired general told CBS News that Lakanwal worked with the unit for eight years, which means he had to have been recruited when he was still a boy at 17 years old.

If that's not bad enough, according to former Texas prosecutor and author Seth Harp, the unit Lakanwal was recruited into was headed by notorious CIA thug Ahmed Wali Karzai, a highly paid killer who also profited

See "Dealing," page 24

THE INSIDE SCOOP



U.S. ambassador to Israel has chutzpah to meet with traitor.

See page 6



Israelis never really ceased firing after signing ceasefire agreement.

See pages 8-9



Texas congressman wants total overhaul of immigration system.

See page 16



Republicans object to Obamacare funding the abortion industry.

See page 25