

Veterans Against Terrorism # I am Soldier X

To Leicester Square to meet the Veterans Against Terrorism who were marching to protest about the treatment of servicemen, and in particular ex-servicemen; in particular to raise awareness of the tragedy of PTSD, housing, persecution of veterans for incidents in Ireland 40 years ago, and most recently the discharge of the young man known as Soldier X.



It was a lovely sunny autumn day, and as befits something organised by ex-soldiers we moved off in good order at 1pm. There was a good mix of men and women, young and old, and many families.



particularly liked this young lad's poster.



Richard Inman, Gerard Batten and Mike Hookem

The march was led by a piper, and stewards,



Above Avi Yemeni, president of the Q Society of Australia and journalist is in London to report on the trial of Tommy Robinson on Tuesday.



From Pall Mall we marched across Trafalgar Square where the Anti-Brexit, we want another vote, rally was gathering. Now

the two causes are not mutually exclusive. It should be possible for a decent person, who genuinely believed that flawed as it is, we are better in the EU trying to reform it from the inside, to also believe that ex-servicemen deserve aftercare and treatment.



The veteran's marshal with the megaphone called out, 'come on, let's have a round of applause for our veterans'. And to give them their due a few people did applaud. Others looked totally bemused, or rather condescending. 'How bizarre' was one comment I overheard.



We marched down part of Whitehall to our rally point in Horse

Guards Avenue by the Ghurkha memorial. A wreath was laid, and the bugle sounded the last post for a minute's silence. The candle which has been carried from Leicester Square by a child whose father had died was placed on the table. The names of 48 men and women who have died or committed suicide as a result of their PTSD was read out. Behind us the Remoaniacs began to saunter down Whitehall.



Speeches

began. Gerard Batten, the leader of UKIP spoke first. He spoke of the intended merger of the British armed forces with the other countries of Europe into an EU force. The armed forces are being run down in readiness. This won't stop with the Brexit vote; Theresa May has said that this will continue even after we leave the EU under the new Security Treaty. There was a noisy police helicopter overhead – no cuts to the police helicopter budget here.



He explained that the EU is a state, it has its own currency, flag, laws, all it lacks is military force, and that is what the New Security Treaty is.

He said that our soldiers are subject to a witch hunt. Men in Northern Ireland took action in a split second in action; decades later old men in their 70s are dragged into court. Meanwhile the bullies of the IRA are protected from any repercussions.

He spoke of how only recently the