

Anti-Imperialist News Service

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Struggle of the Syrian People Slandered by John Kerry

On August 26, U.S. Secretary of State, John Kerry, announced that the U.S. is prepared to drop bombs on Syria as punishment for "moral obscenity."

U.S. imperialism, which has launched hundreds of aggressive wars against other nations; U.S. imperialism which has systematically bombed cities and towns, destroyed vital economic infrastructure and the cultural heritage in Afghanistan, in Iraq, Yugoslavia, Vietnam, Korea and countless other countries; U.S. imperialism which not only threatened but used nuclear weapons and other instruments of mass destruction to terrorize nations and to impose its dictate; U.S. imperialism which has or-

ganized mercenary armies and paramilitary death squads in Colombia, in Guatemala, in Indonesia, in Nicaragua, to carry out wanton terror and destruction; U.S. imperialism which in South Korea, in Israel, in Haiti and elsewhere, financed and organized the most fascist regimes and instructed them in terrorizing the peoples of their country; U.S. imperialism which has carried out covert operations, including assassinations, biological warfare and destabilization campaigns against Cuba, Chile, Iran, Libya, and Syria itself is "morally outraged" at the purported use of chemical weapons by the Syrian government!

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Iraqi National Police Launch Military Offensive in Iraq

In early August, Iraqi National Police launched a new "security crackdown" in Iraq.

The capital city Baghdad has been targeted and normal traffic stopped by onerous searches at its hundreds of military checkpoints, especially at the outskirts of the city.

Large military units backed by air support are carrying out heavy operations in the villages and farm areas in the vicinity of Baghdad, concentrating predominantly in the region north of the capital.

Numerous large scale raids have occurred in Baghdad. On August 10 alone

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U.S. Stockpiling Weapons in Iraq

Under the pretext of backing Iraqi National Police in an "escalating war against terrorism" the U.S. is planning to provide Iraq with F-16 fighter jets worth \$5 Billion. The U.S. is also currently working out a deal to provide Iraq with a modern air-defense system including radar and other communications systems, weapons systems, spare parts and training.

Already the U.S. stores billions of dollars worth of military equipment in Iraq, including armored personnel carriers, howitzers and Abrams tanks.

The stationing of U.S. troops and military hardware in Iraq, expedited by the

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Military Offensive in Iraq

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98 people were arrested on trumped up charges.

The latest security operation, called "revenge of the martyrs," began a little over a week after forces opposed to the U.S. occupation stormed the notorious Abu Ghraib prison. On the same day they stormed a second prison also known to house large numbers of political prisoners.

In addition, U.S. and Iraqi officials have openly been admitting that they are worried about the growing numbers of attacks by resistance forces.

The current "government" in Iraq was installed during U.S. occupation after the U.S. launched the war in 2003.

Today, according to Kenneth Katzman of the Middle East Institute, at least 175 people in the U.S. military are working for the military commanders in charge of the Department of Defense in Iraq, backed up by over 3,300 support staff. According to the July 2013 CENTCOM Quarterly Census Report, there are 10,300 private military contractors supporting the "U.S. Government in Iraq." According to the report, not all of the contractors are armed.

The U.S. organized counter-insurgency war is directed against the struggles of the Iraq people for national independence and national sovereignty.

The Obama administration has made it clear that the goals of the U.S. are to establish a "free market system" in Iraq and a U.S.-dictated political system. So too, Iraq is being used as a base to spread U.S. influence and a "free trade zone" throughout the Middle East.

U.S. Stockpiling in Iraq

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Agreement for a Relationship of Friendship and Cooperation signed by the Iraqi government in 2008, is a violation of the sovereign rights of the Iraqi people and facilitates U.S. reconnaissance and military intervention in the region.

Syrian People Slandered

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In point of fact, any allegation of the use of chemical weapons by the Syrian government endorsed by the U.S. should immediately be rejected by democratic minded people everywhere.

Confronted with the impossibility of deposing the Syrian government when the people have rallied in its defense and desperate to justify escalation, the chieftains of U.S. imperialism have looked in the mirror and decided to blame their own crimes on the peoples victimized by imperialism.

According to the fascist logic of U.S. imperialism, the U.S. has both the "right" to foment tensions by arming and organizing a movement to depose the Syrian government and the "responsibility" to intervene in order to prevent that same government from retaining political power.

But the U.S. strategy in Syria is already being defeated by the struggle of the Syrian people in defense of their sovereignty and independence.

The American people must step up the struggle against the aggressive wars of our "own" government. We must carry on a continuous struggle against the chauvinism of the capitalist class. We cannot let U.S. imperialism – which has committed innumerable crimes against humanity – pass off any of its program in the name of "human rights," "humanitarianism" or "democracy."

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