



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

United States and Allies use White Helmets Falsified Propaganda to Justify Illegal Attack on Syria



Hassan Diab, the Syrian boy who was featured in the staged propaganda video

On April 14, 2018, beginning at around 4am Syrian time, the United States, France and the United Kingdom began attacking Syria. In total over 100 missiles were launched, with three targets purportedly specified by the United States' Pentagon: a Syrian military command post, a centre for scientific research in Damascus, and a purported chemical weapon storage facility.

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United States' President Trump, said about the attacks, during a White House press conference: "The nations of Britain, France, and the United States of America have marshalled their righteous power against barbarism and brutality."

The brutality that Trump was purportedly referring to was a chemical weapons attack, cited to have occurred in Duoma, earlier that week.

The veracity of the attack- and indeed that it happened at all, was said to have been verified by a video created by the White Helmets organization, and posted online, including through youtube. The video was widely watched, and considered an irrefutable source of evidence that the chemical attack had indeed occurred, and that children had been hurt.

One child that was prominently featured in the White Helmets video was Hassan Diab, an 11 year old Syrian boy. He is first seen in the video, with water being poured on his face in a hospital, and being scrubbed by a hospital worker. In the video he looks disoriented, and confused.

In a recent interview with Russian media, Hassan and his father spoke about the video, and the purported chemical weapons attack. Hassan told the reporters that he had just been taken into the hospital and suddenly had water poured over him, and had been scrubbed down. He did not know what was happening. He said that he was given cake and snacks after, and then left.

His father said that there was distinctly no chemical weapons attack, but that his child had been taken in, and had been forced to be part of the staged video. **The father said that he saw no evidence of any chemical weapon attack**, and had not witnessed any on the day that it supposedly happened.

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The video that was so widely promoted on youtube, was, according to the Russian media, a highly staged and completely falsified propaganda tool, in order to justify post-hoc the triple attack by the United States, France and the UK. The video was directed and **carefully staged to show children lying on the ground as if dead** or wounded- even though they weren't- and patients in the hospital looking as though they had just been attacked and were receiving medical care even though this was not actually the case.

The United States has claimed that Russia and Syria has been blocking official investigators away from the purported cite of the chemical attacks. However, this is likely further propaganda, being used in order to hide the fact that the United States and its allies violated international human rights law, and international humanitarian law.

The use of an innocent Syrian child to make propaganda in order to justify illegal missile attacks is contemptable. The United States, France, the UK, and all supporting countries should be ashamed that these illegal, hostile, and unilateral attacks have been made in lip service to human rights with explicit lies and cover-ups. The international community must persevere and do due diligence to uncovering the true facts in complex situations of proxy wars, including the ongoing tragedy in Syria. **We must be wise and alert to not take politicized propaganda as truth**, or news, and most importantly we must not let biased and unilateral international political rhetoric overwhelm our responsibility to the ongoing illegal and unilateral attacks on the people of Syria, including Hassan Diab, and their sovereign country.

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