

Press Release

**The US dropped 24,287 bombs on Syria and Iraq in 2016, stripping its bases worldwide of high-tech weapons, while its capitalist companies race to maintain supplies of bombs**

The US dropped 24,287 bombs on Syria and Iraq during 2016, according to a *Defense One* analysis published on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017, by the staff of the US-based Council on Foreign Relations. This means that on average, 67 bombs were dropped every day on Syria and Iraq. On the same day as the shocking *Defense One* analysis, the US Department of Defense website listed the number of strikes for the 5<sup>th</sup> of January against Syria as 15 strikes, and detailed 23 targets destroyed in these strikes, as well as additional targets destroyed in 10 strikes that day in Iraq.

The vicious frenzy of the US onslaught has been so great that American military planners been forced to shift supplies of bombs from Europe and the Pacific to maintain the pace of the bombing, according to a *Wall Street Journal* report, also on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017, that went under the subtitle of: "Boeing, Lockheed, BAE ramp up production as surge of airstrikes against Islamic State strains supplies of precise bombs, missiles."

In addition to supporting the regime atrocities of Bashar al-Assad by strangling the sincere rebels of weapons that could protect the people of Syria against mass slaughter, the US has been extremely active in leading the fight to secure control of Syria, while hiding its own strikes behind the bad publicity of the noisy Russian bombing.

The US has vented its hatred of Islam upon the Muslims in Iraq and Syria by stripping its other bases around the world, all of which has cost the US \$10 billion as of US Department of Defense figures over 800 days of operations up till the 15<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016 with a daily cost of \$12.6 million. The cost to the victims is higher. The US military hides behind the pretense of 'precision bombing' and the US Central Command has claimed that only 188 civilians have been killed since the beginning of its 'Operation Inherent Resolve.' The US casualty figures are a dirty lie; the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported in August 2016 that in the operation against Manbij alone 199 civilians were killed including 52 children, and Amnesty International released a very conservative and strictly corroborated report on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2016, which confirmed more than 300 civilian deaths in Syria.

**O Muslims,** The disbelievers, led by the US, have made their plans to spread destruction and disintegration in Iraq and collapse of the noble revolution in Syria a pretty thing in their eyes and they hide behind the false slogans of fighting terror and precision bombing. The US and its allies have spent vast sums of money, and yet while they have brought destruction and devastation upon the Muslims of Syria and Iraq, that which they fear is closer to them now than it was when they started. **﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يَنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ﴾** **Indeed, those who disbelieve spend their wealth to avert [people] from the way of Allah. So they will spend it; then it will be for them a [source of] regret; then they will be overcome. And those who have disbelieved - unto Hell they will be gathered.**"

**To our brothers and sisters in Syria, we say:** Do not follow the steps of the American Satan, and put an immediate end to the traitors who promote the adoption of the "political solution" dictated by America in Geneva 1. This solution is drenched with the blood of Muslims, and all the sacrifices have not been spent for the sake of renewing the American hegemony over Syria.

We call upon the rest of the Ummah to rise as one man to remove the corrupt rulers who execute the policies of America and the West in preventing the resumption of the Islamic way of life under the shade of the Khilafah (Caliphate). And to the leading officers in the Muslim armies, we say you are the sons of this noble Ummah, your duty is to serve the Deen of Allah in protecting the Ummah, and it is your duty to remove these corrupt traitors, and to rally under the banner of the Khalifah; only this way you will earn the grace of Allah (swt), or else Allah (swt) will make the Deen prevail with or without you.

**The Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir**

