

# **Criminal War Propaganda**

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The Pentagon budget alone for illegal war propaganda is about \$626,000,0001 per year. Generous taxpayers relinquish these funds so that the Pentagon can contaminate the public mindset to the detriment of humanity, foreign and domestic.

The contamination of the public mindset is a necessary precondition to aggressive, criminal warfare in furtherance of a self-devouring political economy. Once the public is convinced that there is a War On Terror (which is a Big Lie), further astronomical transfers of money from the people to the oligarchs and narrow vested interests – all to the detriment of the vast majority of the population – are easy to justify.

Over the course of the dirty war on Syria, for example, the annual CIA budget in support of the terrorists invading Syria — all of the terrorists – has been about \$1,000,000,000 per year2, and that is only a small fraction of monies spent to support terrorism in Syria. Bill Van Auken notes in "General lets slip US escalation in Syria" that Washington's "key regional allies, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, poured in billions more to ignite a war that has killed hundreds of thousands and turned millions into refugees."3

An important component of the Pentagon's "public deception apparatus" (a.k.a illegal war propaganda) consists of "think tanks". The RAND corporation is one such example.

The strategy of "branding" has been particularly effective throughout the fake War on Terror. For example, governing agencies of deception would have us believe that there are "moderate terrorists." The name itself is an oxymoron, but the strategy has been highly effective. Credulous people still believe that lie.4

The "Public Relations" liars, however, are paid to be aware of perception shifts, and the "Moderates" lie — as well as the strategy of constantly re-naming terror groups5 is wearing thin, so the branding is also shifting. A new trend now is to re-brand al Qaeda – and all of the terrorists invading Syria are al Qaeda or al Qaeda affiliates, including ISIS – as the "good guys".

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Syrian Ambassador to the UN, Bashar Ja'afari is well aware of the importance of word choices and how words are used to contaminate public perceptions. He stresses the importance, for example, of recognizing that the Syrian government is a government, and not a "regime".

Similarly, the terrorists are not "Islamic" not only because of their deviant ideology, but especially because their actions defy any sane notions of Islam. Nor are the terrorists "jihadis", especially since some of their most ardent supporters are Zionists. And of course the war isn't a civil war. The terrorists are there because of the West and its allies, not despite the West and its allies. When incorrect nomenclature is used and repeated, however, public perceptions invariable shift.

All of this leads to an often over-looked observation by Christopher C. Black, a former lawyer at the UN:

Journalists who prostitute themselves by telling their fellow citizens lies are not only betraying the trust put in them by the people, and treating them with contempt, they are also war criminals and should be judged as such. Their responsibility in preparing the way for war is as great as those who plan the war and carry out the military operations of the war.6

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All of the post-9/11 wars were sold to Western audiences through a sophisticated network of interlocking governing agencies that disseminate propaganda to both domestic and foreign audiences. But the dirty war on Syria is different. The degree of war propaganda levelled at Syria and contaminating humanity at this moment is likely unprecedented. I had studied and written about Syria for years, so I was not entirely surprised by what I saw.

(Excerpt from Preface, Mark Taliano's book "<u>Voices from Syria</u>", Global Research Montreal, 2017)

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## Voices from Syria

Mark Taliano

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#### Notes:

1 RT, "Scandal management: Pentagon spends most of US gov't PR budget" 10, October, 2016. (https://www.rt.com/usa/362303-pentagon-biggest-propaganda-budget/) Accessed 6, November, 2017

2 Adam Johnson, "Down the Memory Hole: NYT Erases CIA's Efforts to Overthrow Syria's Government." FAIR, 20 September, 2015.( http://fair.org/home/down-the-memory-hole-nyt-erases-cias-efforts-to-overthrow-syrias-government/) Accessed 6 November, 2017.

- 3 Bill Van Auken, "General lets slip US escalation in Syria." World Socialist Website, 2 November, 2017. (http://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2017/11/02/pers-n02.html) Accessed 2 November, 2017.
- 4 Tim Hayward, "Syria's Moderate Opposition: beyond the doublethink." 30 October, 2017. (https://timhayward.wordpress.com/2017/10/30/syrias-moderate-opposition-beyond-the-doublethink/) Accessed 6 November, 2017.
- 5 Mark Taliano, "U.S-Led NATO's Tree Of Lies." Global Research. 17 May, 2017. (https://www.globalresearch.ca/u-s-led-natos-tree-of-lies/5590456) Accessed 6 November, 2017.
- 6 Christopher C. Black, "NATO War Propaganda: A Danger to Russia and World Peace." "ICH" "NEO". 14 March, 2015. (http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article41226.htm#.Wf81B3bogtk.facebook) Accessed 6 November, 2017.

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