

# Disseminating Fake Information: Conversations with State Department Propagandist Robert S. Ford, Former US Ambassador to Syria

By [Vanessa Beeley](#)

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Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [US NATO War Agenda](#)

In-depth Report: [SYRIA](#)

*On the 3rd of January, before the blood of Saudi executed Sheikh Nimr had even dried, Ex Ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford (pictured left) tweeted this appalling piece of leading propaganda:*



[Link to Tweet](#)

This must firstly be compared to an equally insensitive and cynical propagandist, profiteering tweet from arch lie merchant, Ken Roth of Human Rights Watch. This dreadful piece of exploitative cynicism was subsequently deleted, perhaps after even Ken Roth realised he had overstepped the mark of decency. This was Ken Roth's attempt to overshadow the US bombing of the MSF hospital in Kunduz with further tired and universally discredited anti Assad propaganda.

I guess in Robert Ford's favour he waited 24 hours before his display of disrespect towards a much loved and respected activist and campaigner against the Saudi regime's despotism and brutality, supported of course by its Western cohorts.

Ken Roth on the other hand, could barely contain his excitement at being able to find another opportunity to attack Assad personally, tweeting his little gem on the same day as the US had relentlessly bombed one of the few remaining hospitals in Kunduz for over an hour. 30 people including nursing staff, patients and doctors were massacred, 37 injured in one of [the worst incidents of civilian casualties in the 14-year war](#) by US forces seemingly oblivious to their screams for help and for the onslaught to stop.

It appears that disseminating fake information on Syria took priority over highlighting the US gross negligence and violations of rules of war.



**Kenneth Roth**   
@KenRoth

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Kunduz attack is awful, but recall that Assad attacks hospitals deliberately all the time.

[bit.ly/1ObwFvQ](http://bit.ly/1ObwFvQ)



RETWEETS  
**291**

FAVORITES  
**123**



3:46 PM - 3 Oct 2015

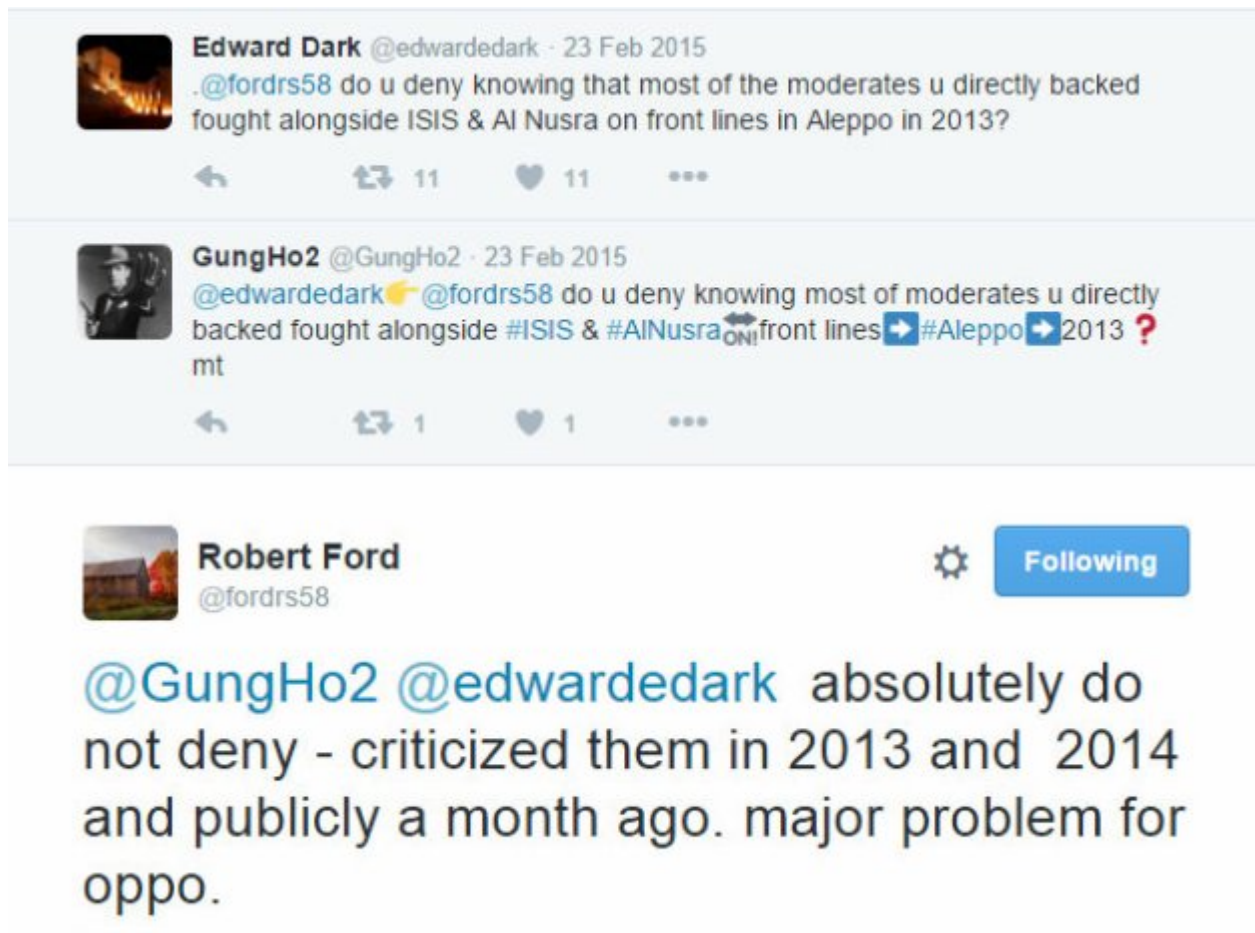
Of course we cannot ignore the fact that Ford is watching US and NATO [Israeli and GCC] plans for regime change in Syria floundering irreparably. Sheikh Nimr's execution was a desperate and appalling attempt to revive a Western/Saudi engineered sectarian conflict that is being thwarted by Syria's innate secularism and the unity of the majority of the Syrian people behind a President who has emerged from the eye of the almost 5 year propaganda storm, as a symbol of resilience and unflappable dignity.

"As with Sheikh Zakzaky in Nigeria, Sheikh Nimr campaigned against the Saudi Wahhabi distortion of Islam and engineered division of the Muslim world along sectarian lines that did not exist prior to the Saudi propaganda, inflamed and fuelled by the West intent on partitioning the region to best serve Israel's security and Western economic and resource agendas," Vanessa Beeley, with Syrian Solidarity Movement, told [Tasnim](#) on Monday.

"From the reaction of certain US Congress representatives such as Robert Ford to the hideous execution of Sheikh Nimr Bagher al-Nimr by the despotic Saudi regime, it is clear that the Sheikh's execution is a reaction to the US NATO floundering regime change policies in Syria," she added.

"The US is determined to maintain perpetual sectarian conflict and anyone who dares to evoke unity and cohesion will not be tolerated. Will this bring more extremism to the region? Iran is more intelligent than this as is Russia. Both countries have been sorely provoked and both are showing huge restraint and wisdom, unlike their antagonists," Beeley said.

Now a little reminder about Robert Ford's close relationship with "moderate rebel" FSA [Free Syrian Army] Colonel Okaidi.



[Twitter Link](#)

One of the most senior "moderate" rebel commanders to be backed by the US and main recipient of Western aid, Col. Okaidi, is seen in a video, which has been authenticated by Joshua Landis of the University of Oklahoma, speaking during interviews saying "My relationship with the brothers in ISIL is good ... I communicate almost daily with brothers in ISIL ... the relationship is good, even brotherly."

Okaidi admits al-Qaida is not any different from the FSA: "They [al-Nusra] did not exhibit any abnormal behavior, which is different from that of the FSA."

The video shows Okaidi with ISIS Emir Abu Jandal celebrating a victory, as an ally ISIS fighter shouts "I swear to Allah, O Alawites, we came to slaughter you. Await what you deserve!"

US Ambassador to Syria Robert Ford, who worked closely with Okaidi, himself admitted to giving material support to ISIS and al-Nusra, stating that he "absolutely does not deny" knowing that most of the rebels he backed fought alongside ISIS and al-Nusra ~ [Steve Chovanec](#) for [Mint Press News](#)

In response to Robert Ford's tweet on Sheikh Nimr, I tweeted [Camille Alexandre Otrakji's](#) excellent article contesting [Ambassador Ford's](#) analysis of the US intervention in Syria.

"The United States has the power to shape narratives around the globe ... it has the power to name villains and heroes ... it can decide who is on the right side of history and who is not.

Then it can promote the ones that it blessed while building international coalitions to punish the ones it condemned to the wrong side.

Usually it also punishes their people and their countries and sometimes neighboring countries, in the process... collateral damage ... the price for freedom ...

It is all done in a slick style that the narrative-building machine describes as "Justice" and "protecting the people" or "the price they need to pay to gain their freedom", rather than the more impulsive or selfish motivators: "teaching them a lesson they won't forget" or "protecting America's interests (oil and defense sectors usually)." ~ excerpt from Camille Otrakji's [article](#).

This article seemed to cause sufficient consternation for Robert Ford to divert me to Direct [private] message on Twitter. The following is the unedited conversation I had with Ford.

Ford: Vanessa - rather than put a tweet out to thousands, in answer to your question, I do remember Camille's long piece. I agreed with some of it. Some of it badly distorted things I had said and misinterpreted American policy and some of it ignored realities on the ground and what the Syrian government does. I wrote him a long response last spring. You can ask him to share it if he wants. I note that he didn't publish it on his FB page, but that's his right

Vanessa: Um did you not just tweet to thousands, utterly incorrect statistics from Syria. According to you Assad personally killed 200,000. That is a barefaced lie even by the US Government standards and to state that in conjunction with the heinous execution of Sheikh Nimr without even including his title out of respect for this visionary man of peace and unity and with no reference to the continuing policy of execution both in Saudi Arabia and globally by their Frankenstein monsters that your Government helped create..you are the propagandist sir, Camille's article is at least well researched. Your statement is a lie, that we have all stopped believing.

You saw the execution of a Saudi Muslim faith leader and opposition speaker against the despotic Saudi regime as an opportunity for propaganda, both against Syria and Iran..shame on you. Where is your respect?

All figures coming out of Syria are skewed by your propagandists on the ground and you know that. Where are the figures on the US Coalition bombing civilian deaths in Syria? Al Bab, Aleppo bombing of civilians covered up by Congress. Where are the figures for the "rebel" mortar victims in Damascus and Homs & across Syria, the "mod reb" suicide bomb attacks across Syria, the "moderate rebel" snipers, the "rebel" hell cannon attacks in Aleppo? When are they ever mentioned by your pet UKFO CIA/Soros propagandists, aka the White Helmets?

Ford: i take my figures from the syrian network for human rights which has activists inside syria and which documents victims by name. their estimates are lower than the syrian observatory. both have detailed reports on the internet that you can check if you wish. if you have more accurate data than



these 2 organizations do, well, let's see it. and where is your respect for the hundreds of thousands of victims of the Assad regime? Sheikh Nimr was one man. I have a colleague who once met him and said he appeared reasonable. but I also regret more the death of many thousands of civilians. and I make no apologies for that.

Vanessa: If the SNHR is so reliable why has the UN stopped documenting victim figures from Syria because information from on the ground is so unreliable?

I presume, if they record names, you will have all 200, 000 names that you are claiming Assad killed?

Who are the activists supplying this information? Are they part of the agitprop shop set up by Avaaz in 2011 that included that bastion of truth, Danny Abdul Dayem and many other such embarrassing fakers..or the Syria Civil Defence, proven CIA/UKFO backed agents, embedded in Al Nusra and ISIS areas and allied with these terrorist factions against the Syrian people.

I can demonstrate SNHR connections to Governmental agencies with a vested interest in Syria regime change, the SOHR has been universally discredited.

You have failed to answer my question, where are the figures for the casualties of your proxy terrorist armies and gangs in Syria? Where are the figures of the mortar maimed and dead, fired by your "moderate rebels" into civilian areas? Where are your figures of civilians killed by your Coalition bombs or the essential infrastructure destruction by your bombs that ensures the starvation and privation of the Syrian people? Where are your figures for the SAA who make up the majority of the victims of this war on Syria, and they are the Syrian people.

And your comment about Sheikh Nimr is a blatant and woeful example of American exceptionalism..your colleague's opinion of this courageous leader outweighs that of his tens of thousands of supporters and followers across the world.

I have respect for the Syrian civilians who are losing their lives and enduring the horror inflicted upon them by your terror gangs and "moderate rebels", I have respect for those raped, crucified, tortured, shelled, bombed and torn apart by these monsters you have unleashed upon Syria. You are right I have, not one iota of respect for one of those terrorist lives lost. Nor should you!

They say silence speaks volumes....

In reality Ford is trying to play 'neutral' and a 'good guy' but still clinging to the Western script of events which is falling apart at the seams on a daily basis.

History alone will show what an awful debacle this plot against Syria has been. It will take a few years for the true version of events to be accepted as "consensus reality" but that time will come.

The West took a side, moulded it, embellished it and armed it and it was not the side of the Syrian people. The "rebels" such as they were did a deal with the Devil and brought the made-in-the-West Devil to Syria on promises of money, status and a seat at the table of power when the "regime" change was completed. Both are seeing their agendas being dismantled before their eyes and both sides are making fatal mistakes in their propaganda efforts.

This is the neocolonial dance. Merciless exposure of their fraudulence and disinformation campaign is needed to ensure they stumble into oblivion.

May the soul of the courageous Sheikh Nimr rest in Peace and may his legacy of unity and resistance against oppression live on through all of us.

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