

DRONE WARFARE: US Military Releases Information on Drone Slaughter of Afghan “Non-combatants”

By [Global Research](#)

Global Research, March 28, 2012

dronewarsuk.wordpress.com 28 March 2012

Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [Crimes against Humanity](#),
[Militarization and WMD](#)

In-depth Report: [AFGHANISTAN](#)

US military investigation damns drone operators

28/03/2012

We're reposting this short report, together with the links to further information, that we have just received today:



One of the trucks after the Hellfire strike in Feb 2010

Centcom.mil released on 22 March 2012 a declassified 2,100-page report on slaughter of 23 Afghan non-combatants – men, women, children – in February 2010, blamed on Creech drone pilots over-enthusiastically calling in Hellfires on a 3-vehicle civilian convoy.

Minutely detailed descriptions are provided of how drones are directed from screeners at Centcom and pilots at Creech AFB using a battery of secure communications devices: IRC chat, radio, video, satellites, VOIP, telephone, not all of which are coordinated and supervised and thus lead to disaster.

Pilots of choppers which fired the Hellfire missiles claim drone operators cannot be trusted due to lack of contact with real world conditions on the ground and because mission controllers at Creech reward “Top Gun” aggressiveness.

Caution of screeners at Centcom and in Afghanistan in this case were overridden by drone operators at Creech to authorize kinetic action against the civilians. As one military interviewee said: from the safety of Creech drone pilots were too avid for kills and used the Tom Cruise Top Gun appellation to describe their “juvenile” behaviour.

The whole report is worth reading and promulgating to counter the PR machinery promoting drones as safe-kill from afar. Interviews of the civilians writhing painfully in hospitals probably won't get much press.

Here are a couple of small excerpts:

<http://cryptome.org/2012/03/creech-savagery.pdf> (summary of the report)

<http://cryptome.org/2012/03/creech-savagery2.pdf> (hospital interview)

Full report is available here: <http://tinyurl.com/clfkdj6> (Note this is a multi-part file, about 153MB total from the Centcom FOIA website which can be difficult to access at times.)

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