

War Propaganda: Human Rights Watch Accuses Syria of 'Barrel Bomb' Damage Created by US Attacks

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Human Rights Watch has been part of a sectarian, anti-Syrian propaganda campaign. It is hyping the "barrel bombs", allegedly used by the Syrian government, as inhumane weapons. I have yet to see *Human Rights Watch* equally damning the indiscriminate use against civilians of improvised rockets by the Jihadist "moderate rebels."

Yesterday Human Rights Watch send out this tweet:



<u>bigger</u>

According to *HRW* the picture of the destroyed town is somehow related to Syrian "barrel bombs." That is not the case.

The picture was published in the New York Times on February 13, 2015.



Caption states: "The predominantly Kurdish town of Kobani is devastated after months under siege by Islamist forces and airstrikes by a United States-led coalition" | Bulent Kilic/Agence France-Presse – Getty Images (Click to enlarge)

The New York Times caption says:

The predominantly Kurdish town of Kobani is devastated after months under siege by Islamist forces and airstrikes by a United States-led coalition

The picture's credentials are "Bulent Kilic/Agence France-Presse - Getty Images."

Massive U.S. bomb attacks obviously destroyed the city of Kobane. The U.S. no longer uses improvised "barrel bombs" dropped from planes and helicopters. It did <u>use "barrel bombs"</u> <u>extensively in Vietnam</u>.

Syrian "barrel bombs" did not destroy the city of Kobane. It was destroyed by regular U.S. air force bombs. Damage by "barrel bombs" could hardly be worse. Indeed "barrel bombs" thrown out of hovering helicopters are likely much better targeted and more precise than unguided bombs dropped from fast moving jets.

The *Human Rights Watch* tweet includes another deception. It links to a February 24 piece by the *New York Times* as if that piece would somehow confirm *HRW*'s claim. But that *New York Times* piece is not a neutral report. The piece, headlined "Syria Dropped 'Barrel Bombs' Despite Ban, Report Says", is solely about a *HRW* report about "barrel bombs" in Syria. The *HRW* tweet is in effect linking to its own claims disguised as a link to a reputable source.

It is interesting, and noncredible, that *Human Rights Watch* feels the need to use a picture of "good" U.S. created destruction to demonstrate destruction created by the "bad" Syrian army in its fight against U.S. supported Jihadis. The picture is obviously not the only thing *HRW* gets wrong.

Update:

This is not the first time *HRW* is using pictures of the "wrong" side. In October 2014 it used a picture of a woman crying over Ukrainian federalist, who were burned to death by Nazihordes in Odessa. to <u>call</u> for a "stand against Putin's repressive policies".

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