

Photo Tweet Claims To Show Steven Sotloff Fighting With Syrian Mercenaries

Sotloff pictured behind truck mounted machine gun

By [Kurt Nimmo](#)

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A photo tweet posted by “AzoozF” with an IS logo purportedly shows Steven Sotloff manning a truck mounted machine gun.

It was posted on Wednesday. Arabic text accompanying the photo identifies the man as Sotloff.

The unverified – and in the supposed ISIS video, not shown – beheading of Sotloff is being used as a pretext to launch a war inside Syria against the Saudi and Qatari financed and U.S. military trained Islamic State, formerly ISIS.

“Leading lawmakers in charge of foreign policy reacted Tuesday to the reported beheading of American journalist Steven Sotloff by increasing their calls for more congressional involvement and oversight of President Obama’s war on ISIS,” [Josh Rogin](#) wrote for The Daily Beast on Tuesday.

صورة للأمريكي “ستيفن سوتلوف” الذي ذبحته [#الدولة_الإسلامية](#) وهو يقاتل في سوريا !! هل هذا صحفي أم جاسوس “جندي” أمريكي؟ pic.twitter.com/XbrGY4ckKu

— [الدولة الإسلامية \(@AzoozF\)](#) [September 4, 2014](#)

Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs Committee are leading the charge.

“The beheading of poor Mr. Sotloff really just brings back that we are dealing with a dangerous adversary... Congress needs to play a vital role and we are determined that the House Foreign Affairs Committee will lead the way,” said Rep. Eliot Engel, a ranking Democrat on the committee. “We believe that before the president can continue beyond 60 days of doing airstrikes in Iraq or anyplace else, he would have to come to Congress and get Congress’s authority to continue.”

[Senator Bill Nelson](#), a Florida Democrat, is preparing to introduce legislation giving Obama congressional authority to enter Syria and bomb IS.

“This will ensure there’s no question that the president has the legal authority he needs to use airstrikes in Syria,” Nelson said on Tuesday. “We must go after ISIS right away because the U.S. is the only one that can put together a coalition to stop this group that’s intent on barbaric cruelty.”

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