

The U.S., Britain and Israel have Used Chemical Weapons within the Last 10 Years

By Washington's Blog

Global Research, September 22, 2015

Washington's Blog 26 August 2013

Region: Middle East & North Africa

Theme: <u>US NATO War Agenda</u>

In-depth Report: **SYRIA**

Those Condemning Syria Have Themselves Recently Used Chemical Weapons

We condemn all use of chemical weapons.

But the U.S. used chemical weapons against civilians in Iraq in 2004. Evidence <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>.

Israeli also <u>used white phosphorous</u> in 2009 during "Operation Cast Lead" (and <u>perhaps subsequently</u>). Israel ratified Protocol III of Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons ("Protocol III") – which outlaws the use of incendiary devices in war – in <u>2007</u>. So this was a war crime.

Moreover, the 1925 Geneva Protocol (which is different from Protocol III) prohibits "the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases".

The use of White phosphorus ("WP") may also be a war crime under other international treaties and domestic U.S. laws. For example, the Battle Book, published by the U.S. Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, contains the following sentence: "It is against the law of land warfare to employ WP against personnel targets."

The U.S. National Safety Council states that <u>"White phosphorus is a poison . . . If its combustion occurs in a confined space, white phosphorus will remove the oxygen from the air and render the air unfit to support life . . . It is considered a dangerous disaster hazard because it emits highly toxic fumes. The EPA has listed white phosphorus as a <u>Hazardous Air Pollutant</u>.</u>

Indeed, it is interesting to note that the U.S. previously called white phosphorous a <u>chemical</u> <u>weapon when Saddam used it against the Kurds</u>. Interestingly, it has just come out that the <u>U.S. encouraged</u>Saddam's use of chemical weapons.

Moreover, the U.S. and Britain have been dropping depleted uranium in virtually every country they fight, which causes severe health problems. See <u>this</u>, <u>this</u> and <u>this</u>.

And Israel has been accused of using <u>depleted uranium in Syria</u>.

Two wrongs don't make a right. But it is hypocritical for the U.S., Britain and Israel to say that we should bomb Syria because the government <u>allegedly</u> used chemical weapons.

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