

# ISLAMIC STATE = *BAD* U.S. WAR FOR EMPIRE = *EVEN WORSE*

**M**ONTHS OF CABLE “NEWS” repeating Pentagon press releases, has created a situation where people in the U.S. are supporting more war on Iraq—and now on Syria—based on lies. Huge numbers—enough to elect a Democrat as president in 2008—had come to oppose the Bush regime’s unjust and immoral war on Iraq.

But now too many people are drawn back into accepting new wars, on the basis that “something has to be done about ISIS.”

The Islamic State (ISIS or ISIL) is both a direct result of U.S. occupation and policies. ISIL’s leadership core was also literally produced by U.S. torture in Iraqi prisons; by billions of dollars in U.S. arms strewn about the region; and funded by close U.S. allies Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Qatar, societies where people also have scarcely any rights. The Islamic State offers a disastrous future for the people, and is no damn good.

Bush’s 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) set into motion the drone war, torture, and mass warrantless spying. Under Obama’s interpretation of the AUMF, the government is free to wage endless, expanding wars all over the world without geographic limits. All of this imperial military doctrine is absolutely illegal, whether Congress approves it or not.

**But U.S. occupations, bombs, economic exploitation, and support of every reactionary regime in the region have done more damage**, by far, than any Islamic fundamentalist group in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was the Bush regime that sold the wars on Afghanistan and Iraq—countries which never attacked the U.S.—on the basis of defeating the Taliban and al Qaeda, **only to have strengthened the basis on which they operate.**

**The U.S. military cannot do anything to stop the violence of ISIS.** NOTHING good can come from U.S. bombing, and we need to say so immediately and widely. Join us.



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