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The US Perpetrates a Boston Bombing Weekly in Pakistan, Yemen & Afghanistan

By Sean A. McElwee

April 24, 2013

Sadaullah Khan lost both legs and one eye in a 2009 drone strike on his house (Reuters)

The Boston Bombings left three dead and more than 100 injured and some have suggested circumventing the rule of law to prosecute the perpetrator. Yet, in Pakistan the unconstitutional drone war continues to kill innocents. On April 14, between 4 and 6 Pakistanis died in drone strike and numerous civilians were injured. Another strike three days later killed 5 more and injured several. Yet there are no protests in America to capture the responsible party, nor will there ever be justice. The people of Waziristan live in constant fear, and face bombings like that of Boston almost weekly.

The two April strikes both involved significant amounts of terror, with drones “hovering over the area” for long periods of time, according to the Bureau of Investigative Journalism ^[1]. These drone strikes, contrary to administration claims, rarely ^[2] target “high-level” members of terrorist organizations, and often ^[3] “militants” include young boys aged 10-16.

Only recently have we begun to learn of the shady covert drone war. Mark Mazzetti’s recent *The Way of the Knife* ^[4], details the beginning: the United States became the lapdog ^[5] of the Pakistani government, performing a drone strike to kill Nek Muhammed in exchange for access to the airspace ^[6].

While the government acknowledges that trials would be preferable for the rule of law, this heavily redacted report ^[7] gives the true reason for the targeted killing program: it's cleaner, simpler and less embarrassing to just off the suspected terrorists. The government uses mafia logic – why waste time and energy risking the rule of law when you can just swoop in and launch a smart bomb?

Farea al-Muslimini testified this week to United State Senate ^[8] about the “psychological fear and terror” that his village faces daily after a recent drone strike. He argues that while the strike may be cleaner for the United States government, on the ground it leaves significant psychological scarring. He said, ^[9]“The drone strike [in my village] and its impact tore my heart, much as the tragic bombings in Boston last week tore your hearts and also mine.”

While we mourn the horrific events in Boston, we must remember that our government perpetrates a Boston bombing weekly in Pakistan, Yemen and Afghanistan.