By Azza Rojbi

“This is a daily reality for us; the bombs fall from the sky day and night and we don’t know where it is safe.”

Abd-al-Fattah Hassan Abdullah, whose father was killed by a Saudi airstrike in Sa’da city, Yemen, July 2015.

The story of Abd-al-Fattah is the story of thousands of Yemenis suffering daily under the U.S.-backed Saudi-led brutal war on Yemen. Eighteen months after the beginning of the Saudi bombing campaign, the United Nations (UN) estimates that over 10,000 civilians were killed, at least 3 million people have been internally displaced and at least 200,000 were forced to leave the country.

The Saudi-led coalition began its military campaign in Yemen, also called “Operation Decisive Storm”, in March 2015 under the pretext of helping to restore the power of Yemen’s “legitimate” president Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi. However, not only has Mansour Hadi’s presidency terms expired, but he also resigned from the presidential post on January 22, 2015 and later fled to Saudi Arabia. Any claim by Saudi Arabia or its allies that they are supporting a legitimate government in Yemen is misleading, and in fact Saudi Arabia announced the end “Operation Decisive Storm” and the start of a reconstruction effort named “Operation Renewal of Hope”.

Brigadier-General Ahmed al-Asiri, the coalition’s spokesperson, announced in a press conference “Operation Decisive Storm” was a “success” and that “the primary goals of the campaign have been achieved and sovereignty has been protected.”

However, not only has Mansour Hadi’s presidency terms expired, but he also resigned from the presidential post on January 22, 2015 and later fled to Saudi Arabia. Any claim by Saudi Arabia or its allies that they are supporting a legitimate government in Yemen is misleading, and in fact the reality of the situation on the ground in Yemen tells a different story. Saudi Arabia was unsuccessful in restoring to power its puppet, Mansour Hadi, and more importantly their bombings and killings failed to break the spirit of the Yemeni resistance.

Announcing the beginning of “Operation Renewal of Hope” is also complete face and deception, as Saudi airstrikes resumed against the Yemeni people less than 6 hours after this announcement.

“Operation Renewal of Hope” is actually the UN’s highest-level humanitarian emergency.

On July 1, 2015, the UN declared the situation in Yemen to be at the highest level of humanitarian emergency.

In addition to the brutal bombing campaign, the

Stop Bombing Yemen
Stop Killing Innocent People
Saudi Arabia, USA, Hands Off Yemen

Get involved

www.mawovancouver.org

Mobilization Against War and Occupation

info@mawovancouver.org 778-938-1557

Mobilization Against War and Occupation is a coalition of over 50 endorsing organizations, student groups, grassroots organizations, and ethnic communities. This is including Indigenous activists and groups from the third world as well as women, youth and elder fighters for social justice and against war and occupation. We are the people in struggle because we are people that suffer at the hands of imperialism. We have the energy, drive and will for change because it is in our interest to make this change in order to create a better world for all of humanity!
An Urgent Message for Peace on the Eve of Wider War

We raise our voices against the violence of war and the enormous pressure of war propaganda, lies and misinformation that are intended to justify this war and every past U.S. war.

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, endorse the following Points of Unity and will work together as an Ad Hoc Coalition to help end and prevent the potential for another war by the United States, NATO and their regional allies and the violation of the rights of the Syrian people.

The continuation of war in Syria is the result of a U.S.-orchestrated foreign intervention by the United States, NATO, their regional allies and reactionary forces, the goal of which is regime change in Syria.

This policy of regime change in Syria is illegal and in clear violation of the Charter, the letter and spirit of international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This policy of forced regime change is threatening the security of the region and the world and has increased the danger of direct confrontation between the United States and Russia, with the potential of a nuclear confrontation for the whole world.

War and U.S. and Eu sanctions have destabilized every sector of Syria’s economy; transforming a once self-sufficient country into an aid-dependent nation.

As the Wall Street Journal reported: “American officials said.”

Saudi Arabia’s border and to protect Yemen’s independence by blocking the formation of an independent state in Yemen.

An independent and free Yemen also represents a potential threat to the interests of the U.S., the GCC, and other Gulf States monarchies.

The Yemeni government is now allied with the Saudis domestically in the hopes of rallying more support and to generate patriotism in its population, especially as they continue their crackdown on peaceful protests in the eastern region of the country. The Saudi media’s uncritical and widespread coverage of the “successful” military mission in Yemen also helps the Saudi regime to divert attention from its political and economic problems, such as the ongoing economic collapse, and the increase in austerity cuts.

The war on Yemen is part of a strategy by the U.S. and its imperialist allies to gain back and expand their hegemony over North Africa and the Middle East. They want to crush the Yemeni people’s quest and struggle for democracy and independence by blocking the formation of an independent state in Yemen.

U.S. proxies war by Saudi Arabia and UN lip service to Peace

It is important to remember that since 2002, the U.S. has been waging a covert “drown war” in Yemen as it continues its bloody and brutal bombing and killing at Al-Qaeda militiamen. To this day the U.S. continues its deadly bombings on Yemeni civilians. The most recent strike reported on September 23, 2016.

From day one of the Saudi-led bombing on Yemen, the White House has been publicly declaring: “President Obama has authorized the provision of logistical and intelligence support to Gulf Arab military operations in Yemen.”

As the Wall Street Journal reported: “American military planners are using live intelligence feeds from the U.S.-run drones to help the Saudi-led coalition target Yemeni Arab rulers decide what and where to bomb, U.S. officials said.”

As much as the White House wants to hide it, the U.S. is providing logistical and intelligence support and is an accomplice to all of the crimes and atrocities committed by the Saudi-led coalition.

In an interview with “CBS This Morning” in September 2015, Saudi Arabia’s foreign minister, Adel al-Jubeir, was asked about a Saudi-led attack that killed more than 130 civilians. Adel al-Jubeir said that the coalition was “very careful in picking targets.” He continued, “We have very precise data and we work with our allies, including the United States, on these targets.”

The U.S. might not be the one pulling the trigger but it provokes the weapons, the ammunition, and the targets!

Since 2010 Saudi Arabia has purchased more than $10 billion in arms from the U.S. and has been replenishing its stockpile through massive arms exports to Yemen.

Further evidence from a headline from the Yemeni Post, which reads: “Saudi Arabia appears to be using U.S.-supplied white phosphorus in its war in Yemen.”

Canada is no stranger to this imperialist game

On March 27, 2015, Rob Nicholson, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Canada, released a document entitled “Canada’s Approach to the Crisis in Yemen” created by the deteriorating situation in Yemen resulting from the ongoing military actions taken by Saudi-led rebels, which are supported by Saudi Arabia and its Gulf Cooperation Council partners and others to defend Saudi Arabia’s border and to protect Yemen’s recognized government at the request of the Yemeni president.

Make no mistake, the Trudeau Liberal government is continuing the same line and the same policies as their former Conservative counterparts.

The elected Liberal government has ignored international human rights while closing a blind eye to Saudi Arabia’s war crimes against the people of Yemen.

According to an article by the Globe and Mail newspaper, “the “Light-armored vehicles, or “LAVs,” are equipped with machine guns, medium- or high-caliber weapons or even big-barrel guns that can fire 105mm shells or anti-tank rounds.

With this sale, Canada isn’t just selling Saudi Arabia weapons; it is also selling the Saudi government a message of political and ideological support.

U.S., U.K., Saudi Arabia and Canada Stop the War and Kill the Children!

According to the Guardian newspaper, Badran Sharah, 28, who is living in Sana’a as a refugee, declared: “It is not a war, it is a massacre. It is not a war, it is a nightmare. It is not a war, it is a horror.”

Sharah explained, “they died because of internationally banned bombs, cluster bombs.”

He further explained, “people in Yemen suffer from daily massacres committed by Saudi raid. I blame USA, UK, and UN, and those who are taking part in this war as well as the western governments all over the world for their silence about what is going on in Yemen. Yemen’s future will be fragile if he keeps silent.”

As peace-loving people living in Canada, the United States, and around the world, we can afford not to be silent anymore! We must support the struggle of the Yemeni people by demanding an end to the Saudi-led bombing campaign.

It is becoming increasingly difficult and dangerous for the people of U.K. and the U.S. to unconditionally defend the Saudi-led coalition’s actions and justify their war crimes. Voices calling for a diplomatic solution are considered a threat to the Saudi war on Yemen and the coalition’s role in exacerbating western governments.

Activist police in the U.S., Canada, and several European countries are organizing and mobilizing people against the arms sales between the U.S. and Canada, as well as their respective governments’ arms deals with Saudi Arabia.

Vancouver’s peace coalition Mobilization Against War, Imperialism & Racism (MAWO) – Vancouver, has been part of the international fight to support the people of Yemen. MAWO has been organizing.

The mobilization in Vancouver is this Saturday, July 29th, from 6 PM to 8 PM at the Vancouver Art Gallery.