

What US Imperialism Gained by Dropping a Bomb?

The U.S. military announced on Apr 13, 2017 that it dropped a 21,600-pound GPS-guided non-nuclear bomb in Afghanistan. The *GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast* (MOAB), nicknamed the “Mother Of All Bombs,” was *dropped at 7:32 pm local time. It is reported that a MOAB could destroy everything like a nuclear bomb without radiation and with less extent of two kilometer radius.* Yet the US claimed that the bomb has killed 38 IS – backed terrorists in an area with a population of about 95,000. When the reports that many civilians too have died were brought to the notice, White House press secretary Sean Spicer said that the U.S. “took all precautions necessary to prevent civilian casualties.” An empty rhetoric to cover up the facts of destruction wrought by it. Once again the US imperialism flexed its muscles to warn the world people.

US could not present any strong and consistent reasoning for this act. It claimed as a part of the campaign against the IS backed terrorists. There is a 9000 strong US armed force together with a big US backed Afghan National Army in Afghanistan. Then, why the US needed to drop a bomb from thousands of kilometers distance?

Before the dust of US bomb has settled down, on April 22, 2017, a US army base in North Afghanistan near Mazar- e-Sharif was raided by Talibans. 140 US army men are said to have died as a consequence. The Afghan govt. found itself in an awkward state. A member of Balka Provincial Commi-tee where the attack occurred complained about the “shortage of coffins”. Not only this. The Afghan Defence Minister and Afghan Army Chief of Staff have resigned on the issue of Taliban attack. The Govt. has replaced commanders of 4 Army Corps. 8 Army personnel were arrested on the suspicion of helping the Talibans.

Interestingly, the US top Officials like the Vice President, Defence Secretary and the Secretary of State chose to undertake the tour of Afghanistan, Pakistan, South Korea, Japan and India following the dropping of MOAB on Afghanistan. Perhaps, they hoped that this will create a favourable atmosphere for their mission. Alas, a most distasteful gift was waiting for them in Afghanistan in the form of Taliban raid on the US army base there. They found their Afghan lackeys in serious crisis and internal strife.

There is one more story here.

Hamid Karzai, the former Afghan President, a darling of US at one time, has come out with a serious criticism on US. In an interview to *The Hindu*, he said: “.....the Americans waited two and a half to three years for Daesh (the Islamic State) to entrench itself in Nangarhar province’s Shinwar district, and use those caves, and to abuse our people, to evacuate the villages of their inhabitants, and basically allowed Daesh to do all this without stopping them.....”

And then when the local people rose against Daesh, instead of helping local people there, the US Air Force planes targeted their village Defence lines against Daesh”. In reply to another question, Karzai has said: “Then the US comes and hits Afghanistan in the name of Daesh, and that too with the deadliest bomb they have short of a nuclear weapon. This is not hurting Daesh. The motive for the US is clearly to test its bomb in Afghanistan, and to send tough signals to its rivals at the same time”. (*The Hindu*, May 3, 2017)

The US imperialists are the main force behind many terrorist organizations in the world. The IS (Islamic State) itself is an off shoot of their politics of domination. The creation of terrorist organization and the so called war against terrorism by the US imperialists are guided by one and the same consideration whether it serves the purpose of protecting and expanding the areas of their loot, influence and domination in the world. So no one should be under the illusion that the imperialists are opposed to terrorism and their support can be taken or they can be allied with in the struggle against terrorism. Believing the US in this respect will be deceiving oneself and the world

people as well. Same is the experience of Afghan people. The US imperialists can use the phenomenon of IS terrorists in Afghanistan and the so called fight against it to add new troubles for the Afghan people and their struggle.

On April 17, 2017, the US Vice President Mike Pence said in South Korea that the US strikes in Syria and Afghanistan showed that the President Donald Trump's, resolve should not be tested. If the new US leadership wants to send a message to the world by this act that Donald Trump can be no less ruthless than his predecessors in US in pursuing an aggressive policy, it will be committing not only the same old blunders but also inviting uncontrollable wrath of world people and more disastrous consequences for the US imperialists in future.
